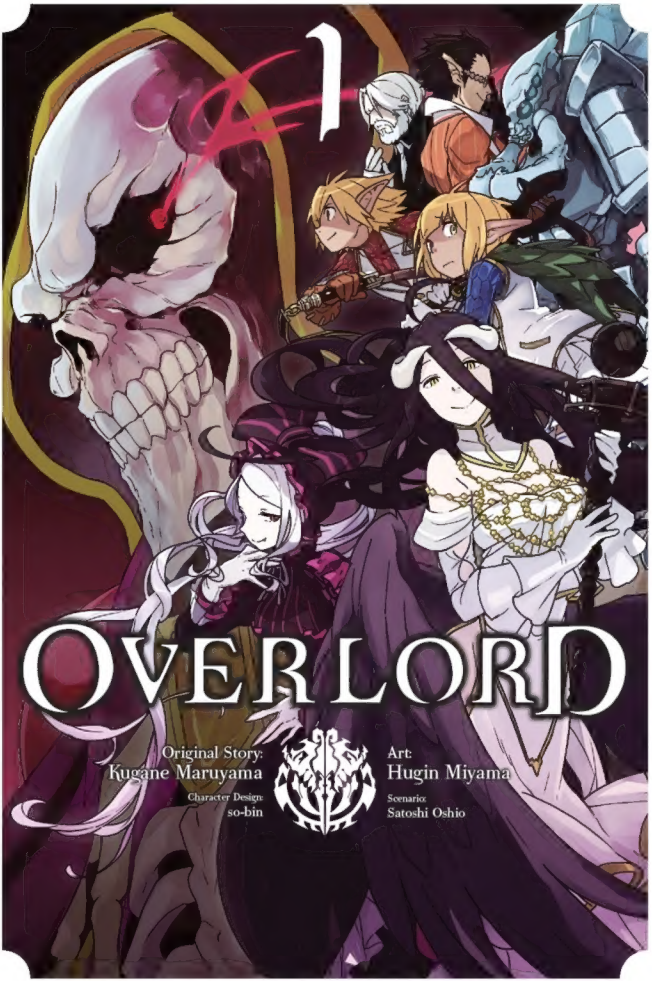

1
OVERLORD
Original Story:
Kugane Maruyama
Character Design:
so-bin
Art:
Hugin Miyama
Scenario:
Satoshi Oshio

A FEW DAYS AGO—
Episode 01
...ANGELS, CHARGE!
—THE MAN I USED TO BE DIED.

OVERLORD
Original Story:
Kugane Maruyama
Character Design:
so-bin
Art:
Hugin Miyama
Scenario:
Satoshi Oshio
Episode:01

OVERLORD

1

Original Story: Kugane Maruyama

Art: Hugin Miyama

Episode:01
001

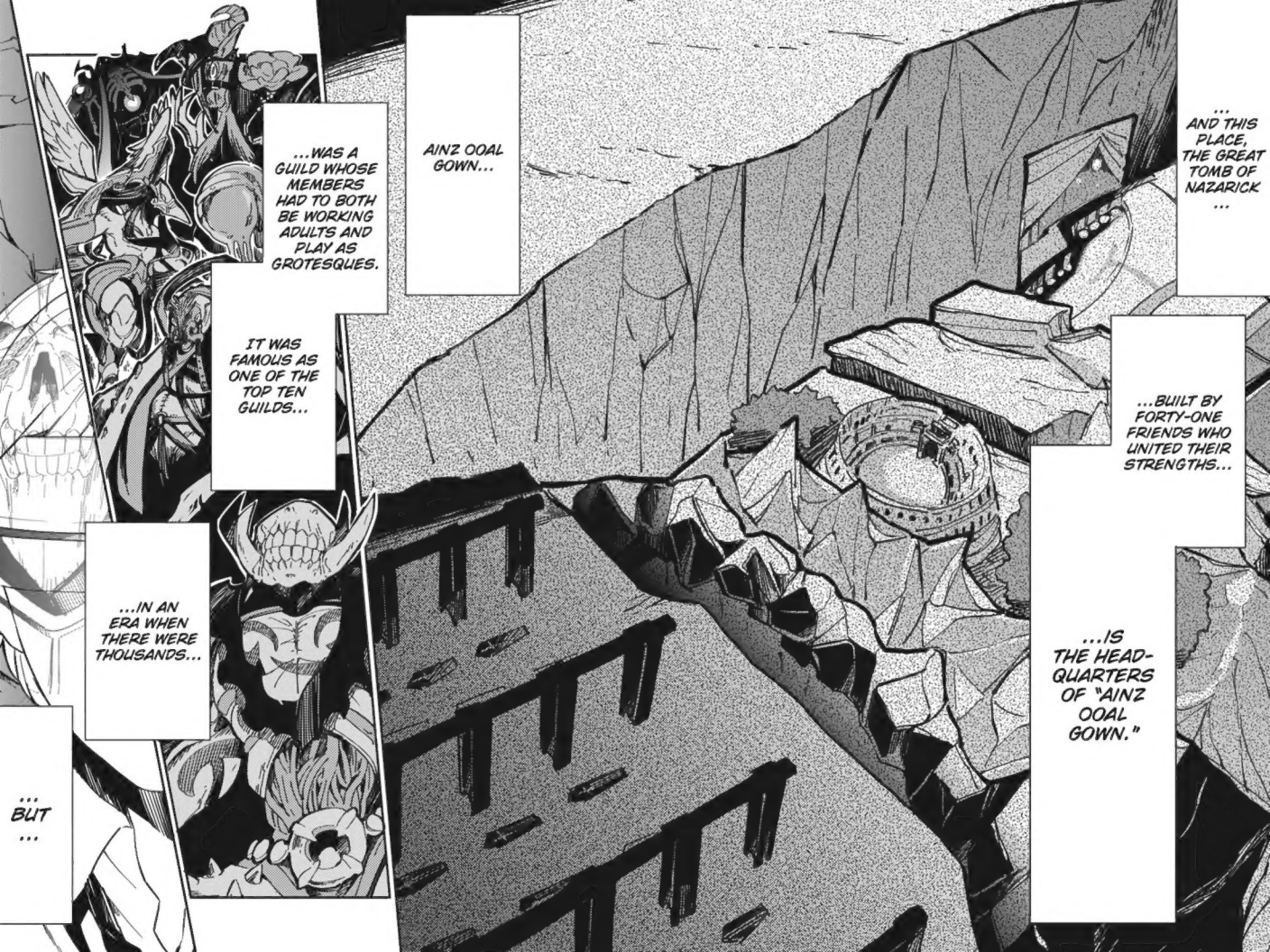
Episode:02
061

Episode:03
105

Episode:04
139

Special
173

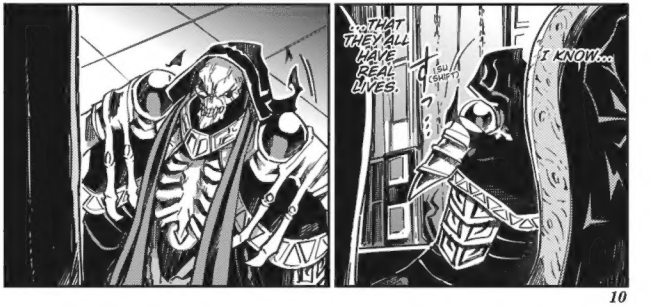
"DMMO-RPG" STANDS FOR "DIVE MASSIVELY MULTIPLAYER ONLINE ROLE-PLAYING GAME"—
LOG IN...
—AND AMONG ALL THE VARIOUS DMMO-RPGs THAT HAD BEEN DEVELOPED, ONE STOOD ABOVE THE REST: YGGDRASIL.
IN THIS GAME, WHICH HAD BEEN RELEASED TWELVE YEARS EARLIER...
...PLAYERS COULD CUSTOMIZE THEIR CHARACTERS, ITEMS, AND RESIDENCES HOWEVER THEY WANTED.
YGGDRASIL'S OVERWHELMING FREEDOM WON IT EXPLOSIVE POPULARITY.


...AND THIS PLACE, THE GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK...
...IS THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF "AINZ OOAL GOWN."
...BUILT BY FORTY-ONE FRIENDS WHO UNITED THEIR STRENGTHS...
AINZ OOAL GOWN...
...WAS A GUILD WHOSE MEMBERS HAD TO BOTH BE WORKING ADULTS AND PLAY AS GROTESQUES.
IT WAS FAMOUS AS ONE OF THE TOP TEN GUILDS...
...IN AN ERA WHEN THERE WERE THOUSANDS...
...BUT...

KARAAN (EMPTY)
.....
...It's been a really long time, HeroHero-san.
PIKON (EXCITED)
...THAT WAS ALL IN THE PAST NOW.....
Long time no see, Momonga-san.
PIKON
DERON (GALOOP)
Even though it's the last day Yggdrasil's servers are open ...
...I didn't think you would actually come.
It's been about two years since I logged in...since I changed jobs IRL.

I really wanted to stay till the end, but...
...I'm falling asleep here...
Actually...
...I'm surprised the Great Tomb of Nazarick even still exists.
Ha-ha... Well, maintaining the guild is the guild master's job.
Um...
SU (PUMP)
I'm really sorry...
Get some rest.
Yeah, I can imagine.
.....
PIKON
I hope to see you again...in *Yggdrasil II*!
Anyway...
See you again somewhere.
SU (BLOOD)
...WHERE AND WHEN EXACTLY ARE WE GOING TO MEET!?
GIRI (GRIND)

...Don't fuck with me!
Didn't we build the Great Tomb of Nazarick together?
How can you all abandon it so easily?
.....

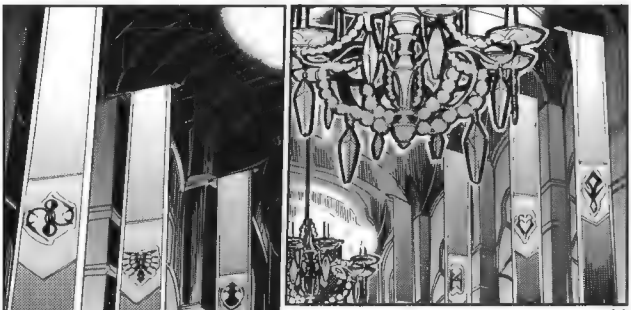

I KNOW...
...THAT THEY ALL HAVE REAL LIVES.

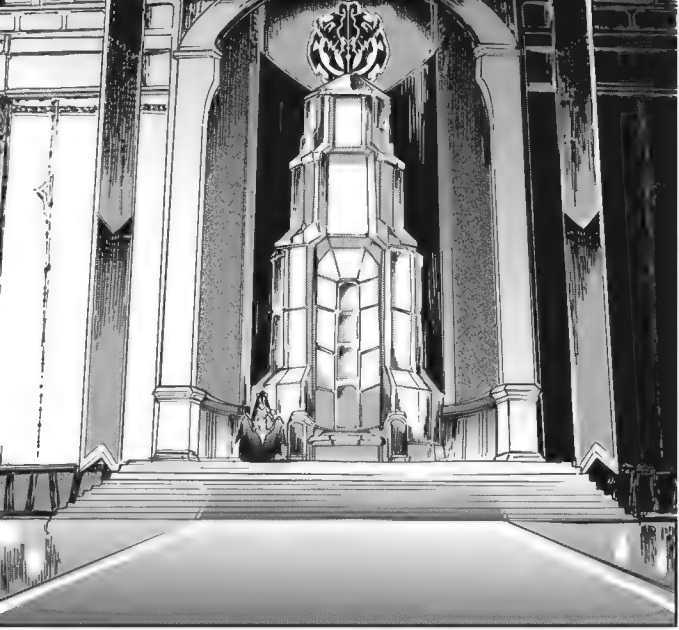
THE STAFF OF AINZ OOAL GOWN...
THIS IS THE ELITE WEAPON THAT SYMBOL-IZES OUR GUILD...
I THINK THERE WERE EVEN PEOPLE WHO TOOK SICK DAYS TO HELP MAKE IT...
I WANT TO END THIS LOOKING THE PART OF GUILD MASTER...
Well, symbol of my guild...
BAGA (CRUSTLE)
...shall we go?

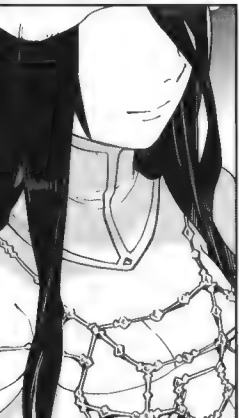
KUKUKU...
KAZAHANA GUSHAA
PEACE! (BOP!)
"MAID UNIFORMS FOR GREAT JUSTICE!" ...OR SOMETHING, RIGHT?
YOU WERE ALWAYS SO OBSESSED WITH THE DETAILS...
...WHITE-LACE-SAN.
.....
NOT...LIKE I'D GET A REPLY FROM AN NPC, BUT...
Thanks for all your hard work!
GUSHA GUSHA

— GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK
TENTH LEVEL
...IT'S THE BUTLER SEBAS!!
...AND THE COMBAT MAIDS WHO GUARD THE TENTH LEVEL.
NOT THAT ANY ENEMY PLAYERS EVER PENETRATED THIS FAR...
"Follow me."

Wow...



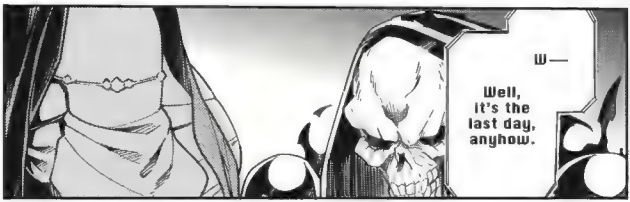


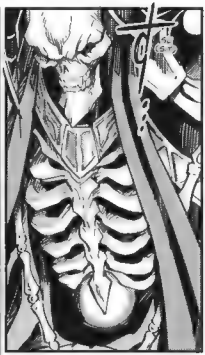


"Stand by."

...I'M PRETTY SURE HE PUT A LOT OF EFFORT INTO BACK-STORIES...
...OH, IT'S ALBEDO. TABULA-SAN DESIGNED HER.
were called an angel. [illegible] speaking and constant mysterious smile [illegible] she gives off, so it wouldn't be strange [illegible]
Actually, it's not far from the truth [illegible] meant to be created as an elite angel, but she was bor [illegible] after fusing with a monster from dre[illegible]land. As a r[illegible] personality is appropriately twisted: [illegible]old-blooded [illegible] crafty and inhuman- she takes pleasure in bringing [illegible] death, and despair on those who oppose her.
The expression she usually wears is like a lid su[illegible] her desire to torment weaklings. If it broke, she'd st[illegible] like Wu Zetian and Lu Zhi, doing things mere humans [illegible]
(Outside of Nazarick, that is...)
However, luckily for those who don't serve Naza[illegible] lid is pretty sturdy and won't give way so easily. At l[illegible] so long as she remembers her position as captain of [illegible] guardians of the Great Tomb of Nazarick and how mana[illegible] on her because of it.
This is a tangent, but although she is usually sm[illegible] doesn't mean she has no other expressions. It's j[illegible] to her poker face, but she has plenty of oth[illegible]
IT'S SO LONG ...
smile is her poker face, but she has plent[illegible]
such as fake crying.
Oh, she tortures anyone who [illegible] ever lose her ladylike demean[illegible]
By the way, she's a bitch.
BITA (SMACK)
I'M GONNA CHANGE IT.
GU (WHIP)
...BUT, THIS IS A BIT...
I HEARD HE WAS INTO UNEXPECTED CONTRASTS...
.....
...HUH?

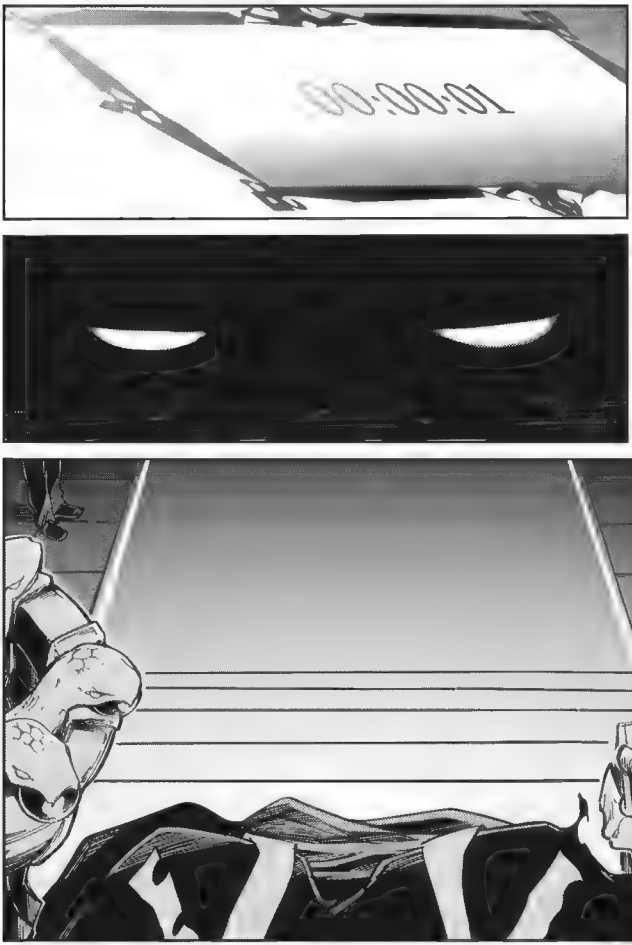
smile is her poker face, but she has
such as fake crying.
Oh, she tortures anyone who gets
ever lose her ladylike demeanor. S
And she's in love with Momonga.





23:57:53
IT'S ALMOST TIME...
IS THIS GUILD JUST A RELIC OF THE PAST...?
Touch Me...
EVERYONE'S CRESTS...
...Death Suzaku, Ankoro Mochi Mochi...
... Peroron-cino...
...Ulbert, Tabula Smaragdina, the Warrior Takemika-zuchi...
... Bubbling-Teapot...
...Hero-Hero...

Ahh...
It was so much fun...
...me...
GOTTA SACK OUT AS SOON AS THE SERVERS GO DOWN...
23:59:59
I HAVE TO BE UP AT FOUR TOMORROW MORNING.



...HUH?

THE SERVERS SHOULD BE DOWN BY NOW...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
KYORO (GLANCE)
HM...?
SHIN (SILENCE)
SA (SWISH)
WAS THE SHUTDOWN POSTPONED...?
HUH...? THE MENU WON'T COME UP...?
SA
SA
WHAT IS GOING ON!?
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER ...?

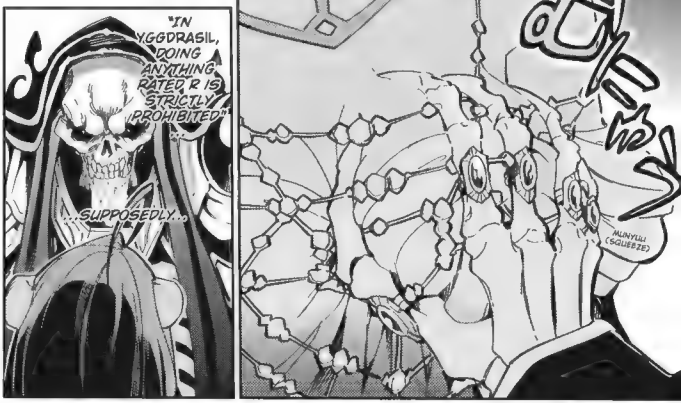
...MOMONGA-SAMA?
WHAT THE HECK?

WHAT IN THE WORLD...
THE...GM CALL ISN'T WORKING...
"GEE EM CALL"...?
.....
...WE'RE HAVING A CONVER-SATION...
...WE...
EVEN THEIR EXPRES-SIONS... IT'S LIKE THEY'RE ALIVE...
SU (SHIFT)
...SEBAS.
MY LORD!

I'M SO GLAD THEY DIDN'T SAY "NO" OR SOME-THING.
PHEW.
NOW...FOR MY NEXT MOVE...
ALL OTHER PLEIADES, GO UP TO THE NINTH LEVEL AND BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ANY RAIDERS COMING DOWN FROM EIGHT.
YES, MOMONGA-SAMA.
TAKE ONE OF THE PLEIADES AND LEAVE THE TOMB TO CONFIRM OUR SURROUND-INGS.
MAGIC...
IF GM CALLS DON'T WORK...
...THEN MAYBE I CAN CONTACT GUILD MEMBERS USING THE MESSAGE SPELL!!
MOMONGA-SAMA...
WILL I...BE ABLE TO USE MAGIC LIKE IT COULD IN THE GAME?

NIKO (SMILE)
WHAT MAY I DO FOR YOU?
YOU CAN...
...COME HERE.
HM... RIGHT.
SU (SIGH)
I'M GOING TO TOUCH YOU.
SU
OH!
...ALBEDO.
THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE...
SHE HAS A PULSE...
SHE IS ALIVE...
TOKU (BADUMP)

C...
CAN I TOUCH YOUR CHEST?
NO, THIS IS NOT SEXUAL HARASSMENT. IT CAN'T BE HELPED. IT'S NOT AS IF I HAVE ANYTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF. IT HAS TO BE DONE, AND I HAVE TO USE ALL MY COERCIVE POWERS AS HER SUPERIOR TO DO IT!
You don't MEOW—mind, do you?
UTTER FAILURE.
NOT AT ALL!
PLEASE... HAVE YOUR WAY WITH ME.
WHAT? REALLY?
ﾆﾔﾝ?
(NYAN? (SHOCK))

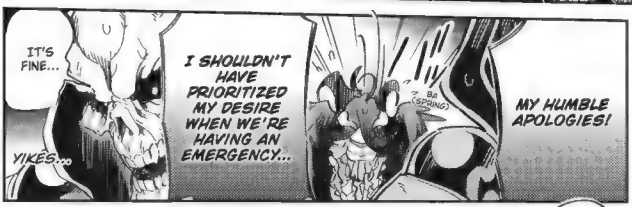

"IN YGGDRASIL, DOING ANYTHING RATED R IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED"
...SUPPOSEDLY...
MUNYUU (SQUEEZE)

IF I CAN DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
...IT MEANS...

Ahh... ah...
...SORRY, ALBEDO.
... MOMONGA-SAMA.

はぁ
ンン
(SIGH)
SO HERE IT IS, MY FIRST TIME.
KIRA
(SPARKLE)
WHAT SHALL I DO WITH MY CLOTHES?
"FIRST TIME"? FOR WHAT?
...HUH!?

S... STOP IT, ALBEDO.
RIGHT NOW WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT.
GASP!
ZUUU (THRUST)
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO TAKE THEM OFF MYSELF? OR DID YOU WANT TO DO IT? IF I KEEP THEM ON...UM...THEY MIGHT GET DIRTY...OH, BUT IF MOMONGA-SAMA PREFERS IT THAT WAY, I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS.
!!?


IT'S FINE...
YIKES...
I SHOULDN'T HAVE PRIORITIZED MY DESIRE WHEN WE'RE HAVING AN EMERGENCY..
BA (SPRING)
MY HUMBLE APOLOGIES!

ALBEDO.
CONTACT THE FLOOR GUARDIANS...
...AND TELL THEM TO GATHER AT THE AMPHITHEATRUM ON THE SIXTH LEVEL.
YES, MY LORD!

ZUZU (GUDGU)
WHAT THE HELL...
TCHA?
SERIOUSLY ...A?
IT WAS JUST A STUPID JOKE...
"AND SHE'S IN LOVE WITH MOMONGA."
...BUT...
...THIS IS NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.
I DEFILED THE NPC TABULA SAN CREATED...
GRI (GLENCH)

FON
GFOOMO
IN THE GAME, I COULD TELEPORT FREELY BETWEEN LEVELS WITH THIS RING, BUT...
SUCCESS ...

HEHM
HURRY UP, C'MON! MOMONGA-SAMA IS HERE!
AHH, F-FIIINE...
URGH...
YAAA!
...OH, IT'S AURA.
VICTORY!

THEY'RE SO ANIMATED ...
YOU'RE SO SLOW!
YEEK!
HFF!
HFF!
TE (TEP)
TE
TE
THESE SIBLINGS ARE BUBBLING TEAPOT-SAN'S CREATIONS. I WISH I COULD SHOW THEM TO HER NOW.
OW!
YOU'RE SO—
TRAINING!? YOU, MOMONGA-SAMA !?
I'D LIKE YOU TO COME WITH ME FOR SOME TRAINING.
AURA, MARE.

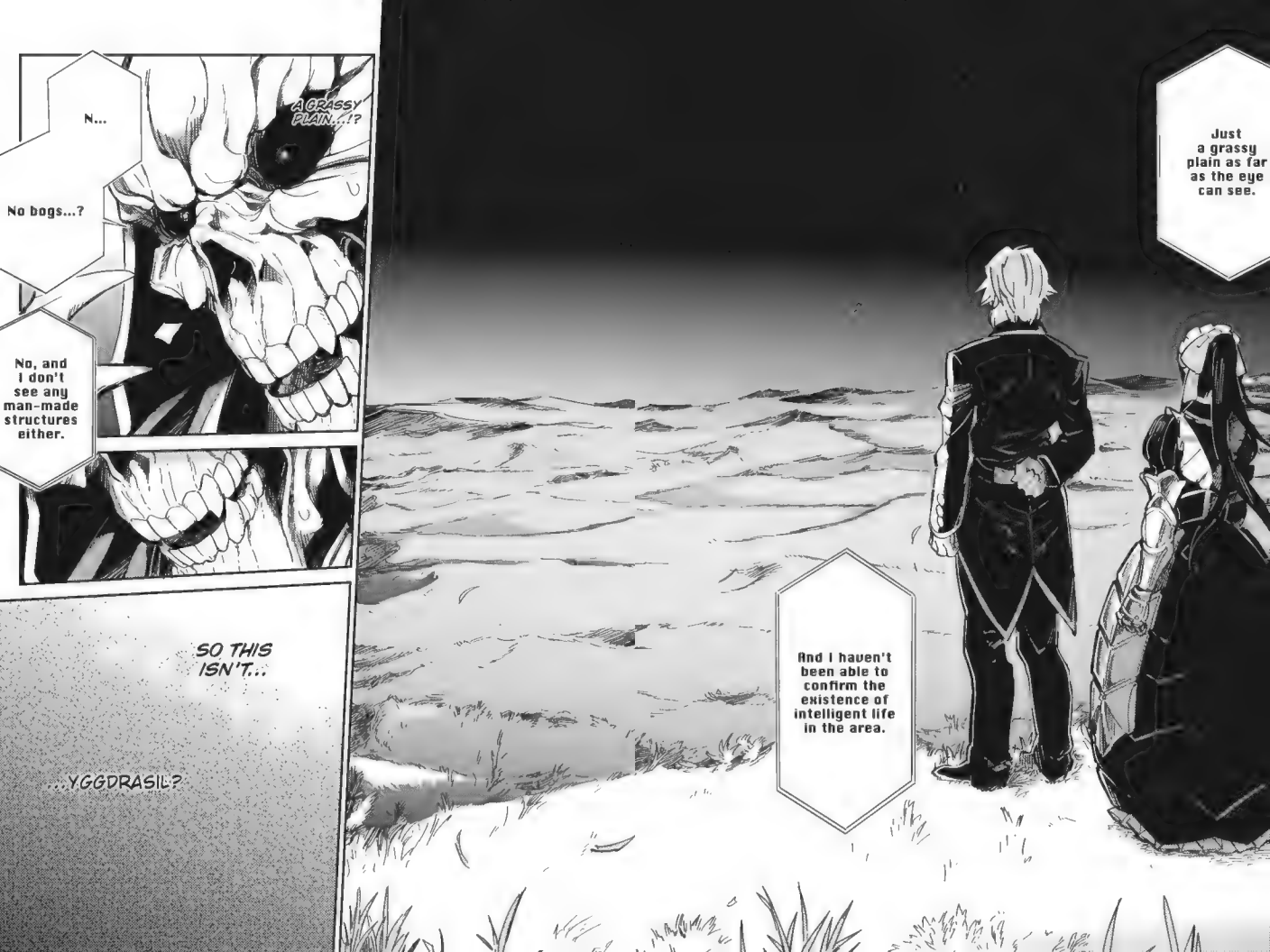
TH-THAT'S...
...THE STAFF OF AINZ OOAL GOWN!
I WANT TO TEST THE POWERS OF THIS STAFF.
ピュー
ピュー (PWEE?)
ピュー (WHIP)
SO YOU'LL HELP ME?
OF COURSE!

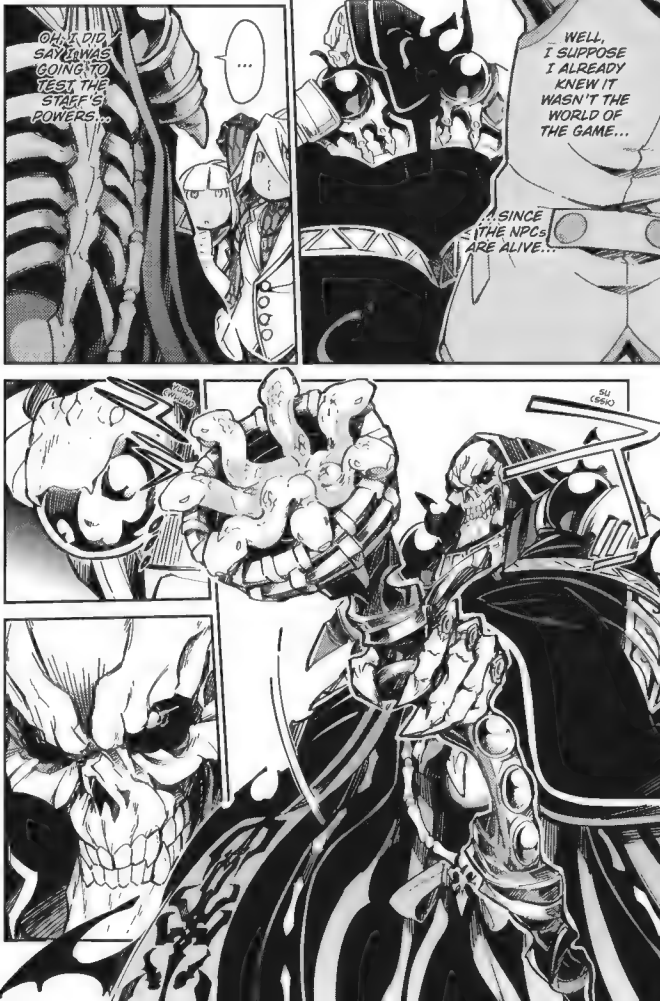
.....
GRIP
"TEST"? MORE LIKE...
...CHECK IF I CAN EVEN USE IT OR NOT...
NI GORND
...

GOMA GWAOOSHO
FIRE-
BALL!
—GOT IT!

THE SPELL'S COOLDOWN IS THE SAME AS IN YGGDRASIL...
PERFECT.
WOW!
AHH...
"MESSAGE."
I CAN USE MAGIC...
THAT MEANS...
MO-MONGA-SAMA!
SHOULD I PREPARE SOME MORE STRAW FIGURES?
NO, THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY.

NO REPLIES FROM ANY OF MY GUILD-MATES...
WAS I REALLY THE ONLY ONE WHO TELEPORTED INTO THE GAME WORLD ...?
Sebas.
SIGH...
Yes, Momonga-sama? What is it?
What's it like out there?
THE GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK WAS SURROUNDED BY POISONOUS BOGS...
We're on a grassy plain.
...A grassy plain?
Yes, my lord.


N...
A GRASSY PLAIN...!?
No bogs...?
No, and I don't see any man-made structures either.
SO THIS ISN'T...
...YGGDRASIL?
Just a grassy plain as far as the eye can see.
And I haven't been able to confirm the existence of intelligent life in the area.


OH, I DID SAY I WAS GOING TO TEST THE STAFF'S POWERS...
...
WELL, I SUPPOSE I ALREADY KNEW IT WASN'T THE WORLD OF THE GAME...
...SINCE THE NPCs ARE ALIVE...
SU (SSS)

GOOD (CHUGGAHO
WHOA!
YOU'LL LET US?
WANT TO TRY FIGHTING IT?
I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO...
OH (GRAB)

GUU
GUU
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
IT SEEMS LIKE I CAN USE THE POWERS I ACQUIRED IN YGGDRASIL, BUT...
...THE FIRST THING TO DO IS GATHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS WORLD.
.....

...SAY THIS IS SOME OTHER WORLD...
BUT...
...SHOULD I TRY TO GET BACK TO MINE?
...I WONDER.
ぼっち...
BOTSUN (ALONE)
...NO FRIENDS...
I HAVE NO FAMILY...
...NO LOVER...

IS THERE ANY POINT IN GOING BACK TO SUCH A WORLD?
SHUUN TAKASHO
KOU SAKURAI
MAGNIF-ICENT!
THANK YOU!
PHEW!
URGH...

...OH?
AM I THE FIRST?
GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK
GUARDIAN OF THE FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD LEVELS, "TRUE VAMPIRE" SHALLTEAR
THIS IS SHALLTEAR, DESIGNED BY PERORONCINO-SAN...
IS SOMETHING BURNING?
SLIDE)
AHH, MY MASTER...

...MISS FAKE BOOBS.
BOSO (MUMBLE)
YOU ARE THE SOLE BEING I CANNOT CONQUER, AND THE ONE I LOVE...
H—
HOW'D YOU KNOW!?
HOW MANY LAYERS OF PADDING DID YOU USE?
KAAA (GLUGG)
ONE GLANCE IS ENOUGH TO TELL! LOOK HOW BIZARRELY POOFY THEY ARE.
OH YEAH, BUBBLING-TEAPOT-SAN AND PERORONCINO-SAN WERE SIBLINGS...
HMM...
SHUT IT! YOU DON'T HAVE ANY!
I'M STILL GROWING, SO...!
AHH!

HAHH
IT MUST BE TOUGH BEING UNDEAD WITH NO FUTURRRE.
BUCHI (SNAP)
YOU SHOULD BE SATISFIED WITH WHAT YOU GOT!
PFFT!
GYAN (SHOCK)
GYAN
DON'T RUN OR YOUR BOOBS'LL SHIFT!
YEEK!
YOU LITTLE PIP-SQUEAK!
ZA (SKIFF)
GUNYAA (STRETCH)
BUBBLING-TEAPOT-SAN AND PERORONCINO-SAN USED TO FIGHT LIKE THIS TOO...
...WHAT A RACKET.

I'M JUST TELLING THE TRUTH—
SHE'S BEING DISRE-SPECT-FUL TO—
ZUN (LOOM)
YOU AMUSE YOURSELVES TOO MUCH BEFORE A SUPREME BEING.
...SHALL-TEAR, AURA...
THAT'S ENOUGH PLAYING AROUND FOR NOW.
GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK GUARDIAN OF THE FIFTH LEVEL "SOVEREIGN OF THE FROZEN RIVER" COCYTUS
SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE'S HERE.
I—
SASA (CHIRP)
I'M SORRY!

SORRY TO KEEP YOU ALL WAITING.
GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK
GUARDIAN OF THE SEVENTH LEVEL
"CREATOR OF THE INFERNO" DEMIURGE
NOW, THEN...
...LET US PERFORM THE RITUAL OF ALLEGIANCE.

GUARDIAN OF THE SIXTH LEVEL, AURA BELLA FIORA.
GUARDIAN OF THE FIFTH LEVEL, COCYTUS.
GUARDIAN OF THE FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD LEVELS, SHALLTEAR BLOODFALLEN.
I BOW BEFORE YOU, O SUPREME ONE.
I BOW BEFORE YOU, O SUPREME ONE.
I BOW BEFORE YOU, O SUPREME ONE.

CAPTAIN OF THE FLOOR GUARDIANS, ALBEDO.
GUARDIAN OF THE SEVENTH LEVEL, DEMIURGE.
G...GUARDIAN OF THE SAME, MARE BELLO FIORE...
I BOW BEFORE YOU, O SUPREME ONE.
I BOW BEFORE YOU, O SUPREME ONE.
I B...BOW BEFORE YOU, O SUPREME ONE...

...THE FLOOR GUARDIANS HAVE GATHERED TO PROSTRATE OURSELVES BEFORE YOU...
EXCEPTING GUARDIAN OF THE FOURTH LEVEL, GARGANTUA ...
...AND GUARDIAN OF THE EIGHTH LEVEL, VICTIM...

YOUR ORDERS, O SUPREME ONE!
WE OFFER OUR COMPLETE DEVOTION TO YOU.
FU (WHOO)
WONDERFUL...
EVERYONE IS HERE...
THE FRUIT OF EVERYONE'S EFFORTS...
THIS IS NO RELIC OF THE PAST...

GUARDIANS...
...IS HERE NOW!
I BELIEVE YOU UNDERSTAND MY AIMS...
...AND ARE CAPABLE OF ACCOMPLISHING THEM WITHOUT ERROR.
...A FEW DAYS AGO—

—I WAS FLUNG INTO ANOTHER WORLD...
...AND BECAME A DEAD PERSON.
... TECHNICALLY SPEAKING THOUGH...
...I'M NOT DEAD, BUT...
...AN OVERLORD, RULER OF DEATH.

Interjection: notes of the Observer

Chapter 1

Yggdrasil

A DMMO-RPG (Dive Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game) released in 2126 by a Japanese developer.

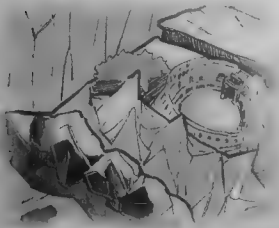
In a DMMO-RPG, gamers can play as if they were really inhabiting an imaginary world, by connecting via a proprietary console and an intracranial nanocomputer network called a *neuro-nano interface*.

The special thing about *Yggdrasil* was the incredible amount of freedom given to players, compared to other DMMO-RPGs.

For example, consider the class system, a fundamental element of character customization. Counting the advanced classes as well as the base ones, there were over two thousand. Since each class had only 15 levels, players could have seven or more classes by the time they hit the overall level cap of 100. If they wanted to, a player could acquire one hundred classes at level 1. For this reason, it was extremely rare for characters to closely resemble one another.

By using the creator's toolkit—sold separately—players could edit the appearance of their weapons, armor, and their own looks, as well as the advanced settings of their in-game residences.

The races players could choose from were also diverse and were split into three main categories: basic humanoid races (humans, dwarves, elves, and so on); subhuman races (goblins, orcs, ogres, etc.), who weren't pretty but performed better than humanoids; and grotesques, who had monster powers and got more ability points than other races but were penalized in other ways. Including all the elite races, there was a total of seven hundred at the users' disposal.



The environment awaiting players was enormous and contained nine worlds: Asgard, Alfheim, Vanaheim, Nidavellir, Midgard, Jotunheim, Niflheim, Helheim, and Muspelheim. The degree of customization made the game so popular that at one point in Japan, the word *DMMO-RPG* was practically synonymous with *Yggdrasil*.

But in the current year, 2138, the game's community lost the vibrancy it once had and has met its final day online.

—THE VILLAGE OF CARNE
OOF...
?
DABA (SPLOOSH)
BAK (CRACK)
(Version III)
Episode 02

Episode 02
OVERLORD

NOW, THEN...
IT APPEARS THE GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK ...
...HAS UNEXPECTEDLY BECOME INVOLVED IN SOME SORT OF SITUATION, AND IT'S UNCLEAR HOW IT HAPPENED.
IS THERE ANYONE WHO SAW ANY SIGNS THIS MIGHT HAPPEN?
I APOLOGIZE FOR MY LATENESS.
I SEE.
...NO.
HE SHOULD BE BACK SOON...
NO ONE HAD ANY IDEA THIS WOULD HAPPEN.

NO MATTER.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT'S IT LIKE OUT THERE?
FOR A HALF-MILE RADIUS, IT'S ALL GRASSY PLAIN.
SU (FWIP)
THERE WERE NO MAN-MADE STRUCTURES.
IT IS INHABITED BY SMALL ANIMALS ONE MIGHT EXPECT TO FIND, BUT THEY HAD NO COMBAT ABILITY TO SPEAK OF.
GUARDIANS. RAISE THE ALERT LEVEL BY ONE ON EACH FLOOR.
TAKE ANY RAIDERS ALIVE.
...BUT SOME-PLACE MORE LIKE REALITY.
AS I THOUGHT. THIS ISN'T THE WORLD OF THE GAME.
SINCE WE DON'T KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN, IT'S BEST TO BE ON OUR GUARD.
THIS GRASS, IS IT THE SHARP, STIFF TYPE...
...THAT STABS YOU AS YOU WALK THROUGH IT?
NO, JUST PLAIN MEADOW GRASS.

AURA AND MARE...
...IS IT POSSIBLE TO HIDE THE GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK?
DEMIURGE AND ALBEDO...
...I ORDER YOU TO OVERHAUL THE SECURITY SYSTEM FOR ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING TEN.
UNDER-STOOD.

WOULD THAT WORK?
PIKU (GLEAM)
M-MAYBE IF WE...
...COVERED ALL THE WALLS WITH DIRT...

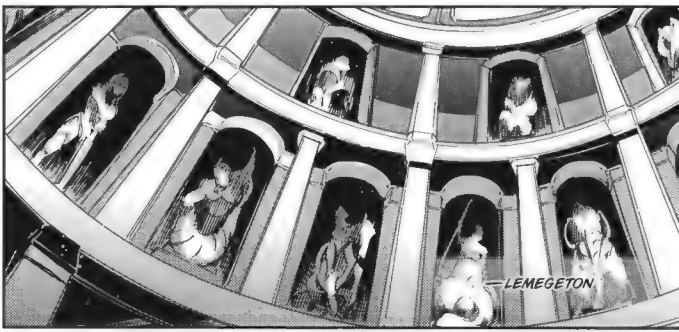
SHEESH ...

ZOKU (SHUDDER)
GOA (ROAR)
...YOU INTEND TO SOIL...
...THE GLORIOUS WALLS OF NAZARICK?
EEP!

AH, MY APOLOGIES, MOMONGA-SAMA ...!
...MARE'S PLAN IS BRILLIANT.
MAKE SOME DUMMY HILLS IN THE AREA TOO, SO WE DON'T STAND OUT SO MUCH.
YES, SIR!
GIN (GLINT)
ALBEDO, DON'T INTERRUPT.
I'M TALKING WITH MARE.
FINALLY...
...THERE IS SOMETHING I WOULD LIKE TO ASK EACH OF YOU.
WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO YOU SEE ME AS?
I GUESS THAT'S IT FOR NOW...

A CONCENTRATION OF BEAUTY.
YOU ARE TRULY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PERSON IN THIS WORLD.
YOU ARE STRONGER THAN ALL THE GUARDIANS...
...AND TRULY FIT TO BE ABSOLUTE RULER OF THE GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK.
YOU'RE MERCIFUL AND EXTREMELY CONSIDERATE.
I THINK YOU'RE S-SUPER NICE.
YOU ARE WISE IN JUDGMENT ...
...AND ALWAYS MAKE USE OF YOUR ENERGY TO GET THINGS DONE.
YOU ARE THE MERCIFUL ONE...
...WHO DID NOT FORSAKE US, BUT STAYED.
YOU HOLD THE HIGHEST POSITION AMONG THE SUPREME BEINGS...
...AND ARE OUR EXALTED MASTER.
YOU ARE ALSO THE MAN I LOVE.
...I THINK I HAVE A SUFFICIENT UNDERSTANDING OF EVERYONE'S THOUGHTS NOW.

I'M ENTRUSTING A PART OF THE WORK MY FRIENDS USED TO DO TO YOU.
STRIVE TO BE EVER LOYAL!
FU (SOB)


LEMEGETON

I'M GLAD THEY SWORE THEIR LOYALTY TO ME...
...BUT, WHAT IF I DISAPPOINT THEM?
THE LOOKS IN THEIR EYES WERE SO SERIOUS ...

WHY... DO THEY ALL THINK SO HIGHLY OF ME?
SU (SIGH)
I'M EXHAUST-ED...

I WANT TO BE ALONE...
I CAN'T FACE TABULA-SAN LIKE THIS...
AND...WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT ALBEDO?
HAAH!
HAAH!
BAN (BANG)
ENR! YOU'RE SAFE!
MOM! DAD!

!!
DOKA
DOKA
OKAY, LET'S GET OUT OF HE—
THE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE...
PA (CLUMP)
...NGH.
!!
DON (SLAM)
YAAARGH!
.....!
C'MON ...!
GO! HURRY!

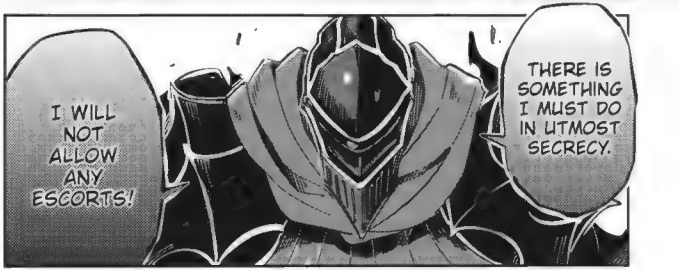
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING...?
GWAAGH!
ZAHHH (SLASH)
BAKI
GUSHA (SPURT)
YAAA
BAK (CRACK)
AAHH!
BAKI
...!

MOM—
ニャちゃあ…

ズッ
CLEAN THIS UP.

ZUN (VOOM)
CREATE GREATER ITEM!
DRESSED LIKE THIS, NO ONE WILL KNOW IT'S ME...
I'M GOING OUT FOR A BIT.
SU
THE GUARD IS READY FOR YOU.
NO... THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
I'M GOING ALONE ...

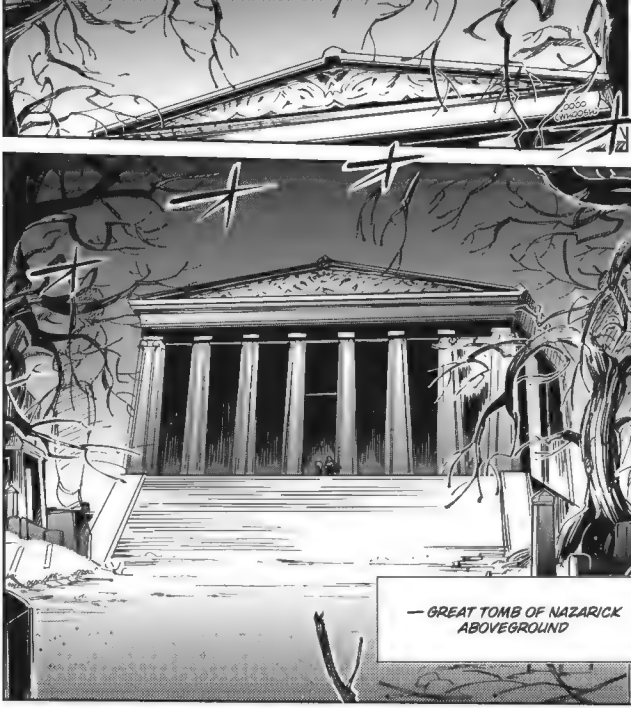
MOMONGA-SAMA, IF SOME-THING SHOULD HAPPEN TO YOU WHILE YOU ARE OUT ALONE...
KI (GLINT)
...WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DIE AS YOUR SHIELDS.
TAJI (FLINCH)
TH...
ERGH...


THERE IS SOMETHING I MUST DO IN UTMOST SECRECY.
I WILL NOT ALLOW ANY ESCORTS!

NOW WHERE'S THE EXIT?
I SOMEHOW MANAGED TO SNEAK OUT.
...
ZORO (CLUSTER)
HUH...?
UNDEAD MOBS UNDER SHALLTEAR'S CONTROL SHOULD BE STATIONED IN THIS AREA!!
...SO WHY ARE DEMIURGE'S BODYGUARDS HERE?
GRAH...

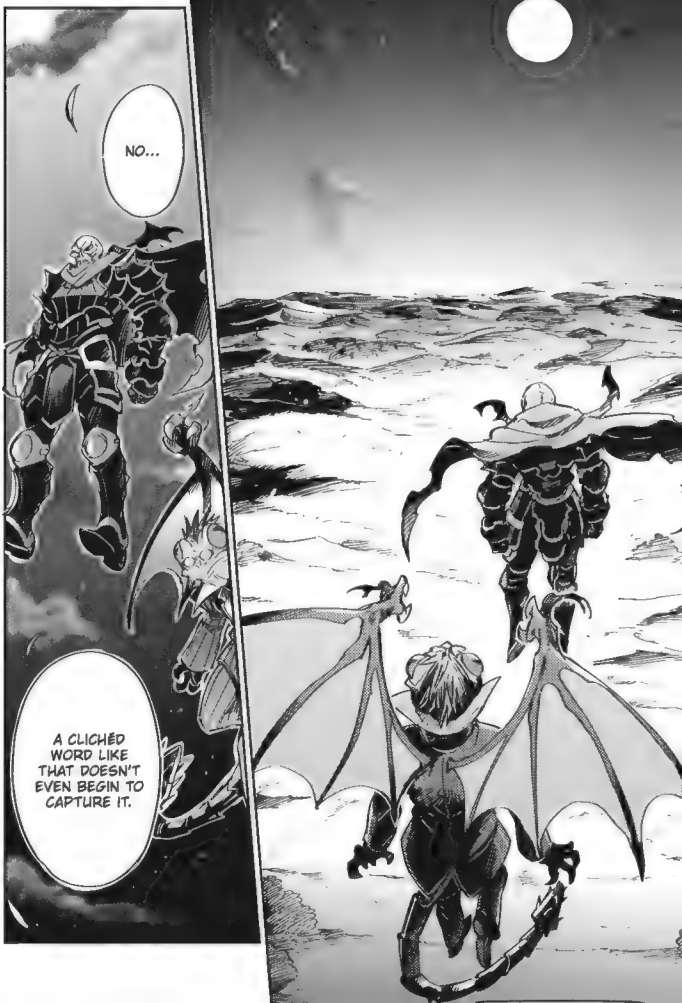
I'LL WALK ALONG THE WALL...
IT'S TOO SUSPICIOUS TO JUST STAND HERE.
...
...DEMIURGE.
!?
GAKUUN (ZERO)
MOMONGA-SAMA!
UGH...
I HAVE MY REASONS ...
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING HERE WITHOUT YOUR GUARDS?
AND WHAT ARE YOU WEARING...?
HE SAW THROUGH MY DISGUISE!

CALL ME "DARK WARRIOR."
BUT, MOMO—
DEMIURGE!
.....
(STARE)
DARK WARRIOR-SAMA...?
...I SEE.
HEH!
HUH? YOU SEE WHAT?
SO THAT'S WHY.
HOWEVER, MO— DARK WARRIOR-SAMA...
...IT WOULD NOT DO FOR ME TO OVERLOOK...
...YOU BEING OUT WITHOUT AN ESCORT.
GLOOMY (SFX)


— GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK
ABOVEGROUND

I APPRE-
CIATE YOU
GRANTING
MY SELFISH
REQUEST.
.....

FLY!
WYJN (GUIDE)
CHARA (JANGLE)
DEMIURGE (HALF-DEMON FORM)
IT'S JUST STUNNING...


NO...
A CLICHÉD WORD LIKE THAT DOESN'T EVEN BEGIN TO CAPTURE IT.

...IF I MIGHT GET YOUR PERMISSION ...
EVEN FOR A FANTASY WORLD, THIS SKY IS JUST BEAUTIFUL....
IT'S LIKE A BOX OF JEWELS.
IF THE SKY IS CLEAR...
...YOU CAN SEE JUST BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON AND THE STARS.
I THINK THAT'S WHAT BLUE PLANET-SAN TOLD ME...
...I WOULD MOBILIZE NAZARICK'S ENTIRE ARMY...
...AND TAKE THIS WHOLE BOX OF JEWELS FOR YOU.
.....
SU (SHIFT)
WORLD CONQUEST?
...THAT MIGHT BE FUN.

DARK WARRIOR-SAMA, MAY I INQUIRE WHAT YOUR PLANS ARE?
...YOU CAN JUST CALL ME "MOMONGA."
THEN IF I SPREAD THE NAME OF OUR GUILD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD...
IF THERE ARE OTHER GUILD MEMBERS WHO ENDED UP HERE...
I MIGHT REACH SOMEONE.
!
ZU (RMB)
ZUU
I'D EXPECT NOTHING LESS OF MARE.
LEAVING THE CAMOU-FLAGE WORK TO HIM WAS THE RIGHT CHOICE.
ZUU
ZUU

I'M THINKING TO GO CHECK UP ON MARE.
I'D LIKE TO GIVE HIM A REWARD, BUT I WONDER WHAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE ...
I THINK YOUR TALKING TO HIM WILL BE PLENTY REWARD ENOUGH...
NINO! (SMILE)
W-welcome, Momonga-sama!
KACHI (TREMBLE)
I humbly thank you for coming...
KOCHI (SHAKE)
GAKU (DROP HEAD)
GAKU
MMM...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO SCARED OF ME.

THE WORK YOU'RE DOING IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.
SO...
...I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW SATISFIED I AM WITH YOUR FLAWLESS WORK.
ACCEPT THIS REWARD.
...BUT THAT'S —!

AHHHHH!
M-MOMONGA-SAMA...
I THINK YOU TOOK OUT TH...
...THE WRONG TH-THING!

THAT'S A RING OF AINZ OOAL GOWN—
—A TREASURE ONLY SUPREME BEINGS MAY POSSESS!
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN ACCEPT SUCH A GIFT!
RELAX, MARE.

THIS RING WILL BE USEFUL, SINCE IT LETS YOU TELEPORT BETWEEN LEVELS.
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, BUT I THINK HIGHLY OF YOUR WORK, SO...
...TAKE IT AS AN ORDER.
TH-THANK YOU SO MUDGE...
...FOR GIVING ME SUCH A VALUABLE REWARD!
BEE HEE HEE...
NOW I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN TELEPORT, SO THEY WON'T KNOW IT WAS ME!
SORRY, MARE...
BY THE WAY...
...WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT, MOMONGA-SAMA?
UGH...
?
IT'S SIMPLE, MARE.

WHEN MOMONGA-SAMA SHOWS UP...
...EVERYONE NATURALLY STOPS WHAT THEY ARE DOING AND DEMONSTRATES SUBMISSION TO HIM...
...BUT THAT IS NOT WHAT HE WISHES, SO THAT IS WHY HE WAS HIDING EVEN HIS NAME.
BANG
I...I SEE...
H-HOW VERY LIKE YOU TO PERCEIVE MY EVERY INTENTION, ALBEDO.
SHE GOT ME OUT OF THAT JAM, BUT DEMIURGE IS GLARING AT ME...
JI (STARE)
AS CAPTAIN OF THE FLOOR GUARDIANS, IT'S ONLY NATURAL.
ALTHOUGH I'M CONFIDENT THAT I WOULD KNOW YOUR HEART NO MATTER WHAT...
CHIRA (GLANCE)
I GOT TO SEE MOMONGA-SAMA... ♡

OH, ALBEDO.
...DID YOU NEED SOME-THING?
!?
I SHOULD GIVE YOU ONE OF THESE TOO.
WAS HER EXPRESSION JUST NOW KIND OF INSANE?
JUST MY IMAGINATION...
YOU NEED ONE TOO, AS CAPTAIN OF THE FLOOR GUARDIANS.
WELL, I GUESS I'LL HEAD BACK TO THE NINTH LEVEL BEFORE I GET SCOLDED.
...THANK YOU, MY LORD.

DEMIURGE... I'LL HAVE ONE FOR YOU ANOTHER TIME.
UNDERSTOOD, MOMONGA-SAMA.
FON (FOOM)
.....
FURU (TREMBLE)
TEE HEE!
...?
I FEEL LIKE I HEARD SOMETHING...
SWEET!

SO SMOOTH...
PAKA (CLOP)
PAK (CRACK-F)
PAKA (CLOP)
THE EMPIRE MUST HAVE DONE THIS...
OR.....
.....
LET'S FIND THE SURVIVORS AND ESCORT THEM TO SAFETY.
...!
... CAPTAIN!

THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A TRAP!
I'D EVEN VENTURE TO SAY THAT THE REASON THEY DIDN'T KILL EVERY LAST PERSON...
...WAS TO BAIT US! IT CAN'T BE ANYTHING BUT A TRAP!
.....
THE MOST VALUABLE LIFE HERE IS YOURS.
WE CAN'T BE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS TO THE VILLAGERS—
I WAS BORN A COMMONER.
YOU WERE TOO... RIGHT?
DEATH IS LIKE A NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR WHEN YOU LIVE IN A VILLAGE.
IF PEOPLE WHO CAN'T PROTECT THEMSELVES ARE ATTACKED BY A MONSTER...
...ALL THEY CAN DO IS LIE LOW UNTIL IT LEAVES.
WHEN YOU'RE A POOR COMMONER, NO ONE WILL SAVE YOU...

...WE'RE DIFFERENT.
SO I WANT TO SHOW THEM...
LET'S SHOW THEM...
...THAT THERE ARE STRONG ...
...WHO WILL PROTECT THE WEAK!

WE GO NOT TO OUR DEATHS...
WE GO TO SAVE THE PEOPLE!
UNDER-STOOD...
PAKA (CLOP)

SO THIS IS HOW TO SCROLL...
...AND I CAN SWITCH THE ANGLE LIKE... THIS...
THE MIRROR OF REMOTE VIEWING WAS AN ITEM OF QUESTIONABLE UTILITY IN THE GAME...
...BUT IT'S PLENTY USEFUL IN MY CURRENT SITUATION.
BUT...
WHAT IS IT, MO-MONGA-SAMA?
...NOTHING!

I HUMBLY INSIST THAT YOU REFRAIN FROM GOING OUT ALONE.
I JUST CAN'T GET USED TO THIS...HE GOT MAD AT ME BEFORE TOO...
ERGH...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE A BREAK SOON?
I'M UNDEAD, SO I DON'T GET NEGATIVE STATUS EFFECTS LIKE FATIGUE.
WHY DOES HE HAVE TO BE SO SIMILAR TO HIS CREATOR, TOUCH ME, THAT THEY'RE BOTH EQUALLY SCARY WHEN THEY'RE MAD?
...!
"NOTHING TO DO WITH ME"...?
"WELL, IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME...
PEOPLE ARE GETTING KILLED...

PLEASE, MY DAUGHTERS ...
...I KNOW AN UNDEAD'S EMOTIONS ARE RESTRAINED ....
...BUT IS MY MIND CEASING TO BE HUMAN?
WHAT WILL YOU DO?
UNDER-STOOD.
IGNORE THEM.
WE'VE GOT NOTHING TO GAIN BY SAVING THEM.

TOUCHI SAN...
I CAN SEE HIM THERE...
FU (OOP)
BACK WHEN I...
—WHEN I FIRST STARTED PLAYING YGGDRA-SIL...
—WHEN SOMEONE ...

...I KEPT GETTING PK'D FOR BEING A GROTESQUE.
WHEN SOMEONE'S IN TROUBLE...
...IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO HELP THEM.
HE SAID THOSE WORDS AND SAVED ME...
...I WOULDN'T BE WHO I AM...
IF IT WEREN'T FOR THAT...
.....
...SEBAS.

PUT NAZARICK ON THE HIGHEST ALERT LEVEL.
TELL ALBEDO TO FULLY ARM HERSELF AND FOLLOW.
UNDER-STOOD.
I'M GOING OUT AHEAD.
SHAK

...THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE.
GATE!

DOKUN
(BADUM)
GRASP
HEART!

SO YOU'RE FINE CHASING LITTLE GIRLS AROUND...
...BUT I'M TOO MUCH TO HANDLE?
NGH...
DOKUN
DOKUN
SUU (SHF)
DOKUN (DARUMA)
CUCHA (SPLORTCH)

Items

In *Yggdrasil*, most items could be customized by inlaying them with data crystals dropped by defeated monsters. There were also *artifacts*, dropped as fixed data that could not be augmented.

Gear was classified by how much data it contained. From low to high, there were low, middle, upper, superior, legacy, relic, legend, and god-tiers. Above the highest tier are World Items, and their data volume was really something. Details follow.

World Items

In the gigantic world of *Yggdrasil*, only two hundred of these ultimate items existed. Each one contained a unique power; some even allowed players to demand the admins to change a part of the game's system. Just acquiring one of these rarities was enough to boost one's reputation to the highest reaches.

Ainz Ooal Gown possessed eleven World Items. That was the most of any guild. Noting how the guild with the next most had only three demonstrates just how powerful a guild Ainz Ooal Gown was.

Momonga, as guild master, got permission to carry one of their World Items as his own. The rest were scattered around the Great Tomb of Nazarick, although most of them stayed in the treasury, protected by the Avatars. The guild member who created Albedo gave her one of them.

God-Tier Items

Items which boast data volume second only to World Items.

All the items Momonga habitually equips are god-tier. With the exception of his left ring finger, he wears a ring on each finger, each with its own power. His necklace, gauntlets, boots, cape, cloak, and circlet each have special abilities. His robe gives off an ominous aura, but it is just for show; the robe data had room so he just plugged in the effect.

The symbol of Ainz Ooal Gown, the Staff of Ainz Ooal Gown, is also a god-tier item, but since its powers classify it as a Guild Weapon, it has far more data than normal god-tier items.

It was based on the god Hermes's staff, the caduceus, and consists of seven intertwined snakes, each with a jewel in its mouth. The jewels are all god artifacts, and since they are part of a series, collecting them all yields great power. The members of Ainz Ooal Gown spent an enormous amount of time hunting monsters to acquire those jewels. The Staff itself also contains an immense amount of power, surpassing god-tier, and is said to be on par with a World Item.

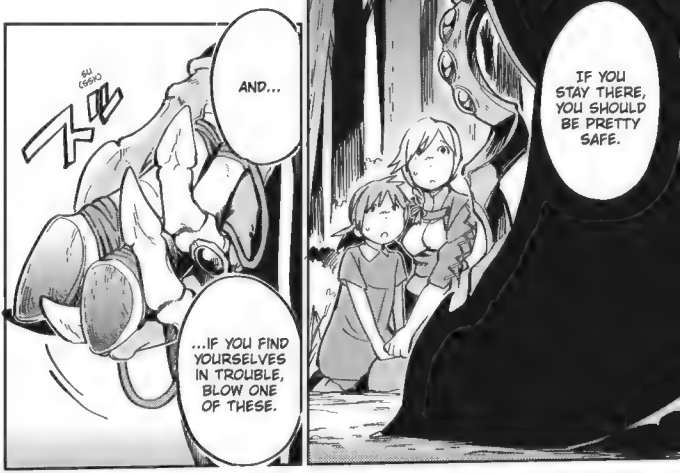
ドサッ
...HOW WEAK.
THEY DIE THIS EASILY...?
OVERLORD
Episode 05
CREATE MIDDLE-TIER UNDEAD ...
ゴポッ
...DEATH KNIGHT!
ゴポッ

KILL THE KNIGHTS—
YAAAARGH!
YAAAARGH!
—WHO ARE ATTACK-ING THIS VILLAGE ...
WHAT'S THE POINT OF A SHIELD WHO LEAVES THE ONE HE'S SUPPOSED TO PROTECT?
YOU ABAN-DONED YOUR MASTER ...
DO SLIMES CRONE?

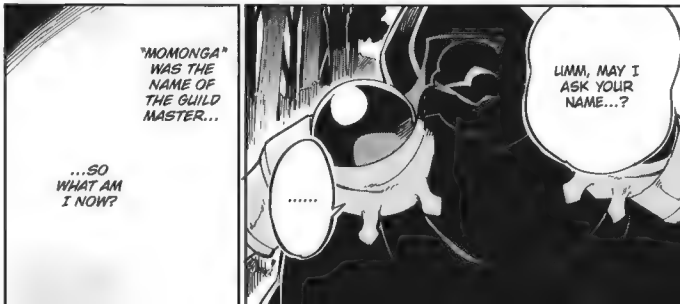
MY APOLOGIES. GETTING READY TOOK SOME TIME.
OH, ACTUALLY, YOUR TIMING'S PERFECT.
HOW WILL YOU DISPOSE OF THESE LOWER LIFE-FORMS THAT ARE STILL ALIVE?
WOULD YOU RATHER I DIRTY MY HANDS IN YOUR PLACE?
WHAT DID SHE HEAR FROM SEBAS...?
NO, WE'RE SAVING THIS VILLAGE.

I-I'LL DRINK IT!
JUST DON'T MAKE MY SI—
SIS!
GU (SSH)
NOW THEN...
DRINK THIS.
THEY DON'T TRUST ME AT ALL.
WAHHH
FURU FURU TREMBLE
TH...
W-WAIT. DON'T BE TOO HASTY.
THERE'S AN ORDER TO EVERY-THING.
YOU DESERVE TO DIE 10,000 DEATHS!
HE TRIED TO GIVE YOU A POTION OUT OF KINDNESS, AND YOU REFUSED ...?

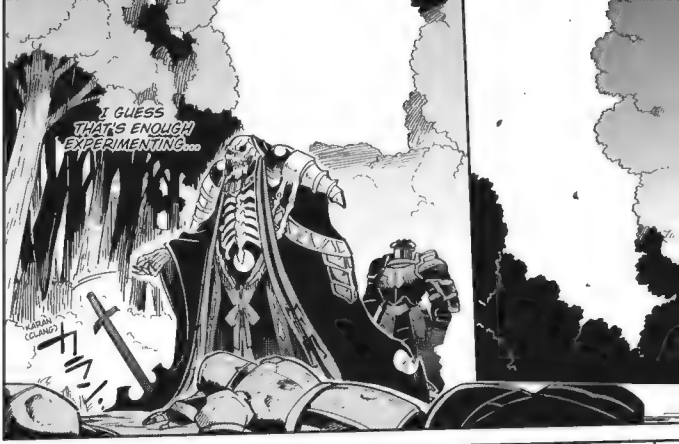
GUBI (GULP)
DON'T WORRY. THIS IS MEDICINE THAT WILL HEAL YOU.
TOPU (GLUB)
I GUESS MY FACE IS PRETTY SCARY...
.....
...!
SUU (SWIP)
!
DAAA (NAMMA)
Y...YES!
THE PAIN IS GONE, RIGHT?


IF YOU STAY THERE, YOU SHOULD BE PRETTY SAFE.
AND...
...IF YOU FIND YOURSELVES IN TROUBLE, BLOW ONE OF THESE.

THE GOBLIN ARMY THAT APPEARS SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROTECT YOU.
TH... THANK YOU.


UMM, MAY I ASK YOUR NAME...?
.....
"MOMONGA" WAS THE NAME OF THE GUILD MASTER...
...SO WHAT AM I NOW?

YOU WOULD DO WELL TO REMEMBER MY NAME.
OH I SEE—
I AM...
...AINZ OOAL GOWN!
Episode:03
OVERLORD


I GUESS THAT'S ENOUGH EXPERIMENTING...
KARAN (CLANG)
カラン!

...TO BE SO RUDE AS TO ABBREVIATE...
...THE NAME OF OUR SUPREME RULER?
TEE HEE!
I-IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT...
TEE HEE!
"AINZ" IS FINE, ALBEDO.
TEE HEE!
SO, AINZ OOAL GOWN-SAMA...

C-COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE LETTING ME ESPECIALLY CALL YOU BY THIS SHORTENED—
TEE HEE HEE HEE...
TEE-HEE... VERY WELL, MY MASTER, AINZ-SAMA. TEE-HEE-HEE...
MOCHI
もじ
I DON'T MIND.
UNTIL MY OLD FRIENDS SHOW UP, THIS NAME IS MY NAME.

I FIGURED...
OH. OF COURSE...
NO. I'M GOING TO HAVE EVERYONE CALL ME THE SAME THING.
SIGH (GLOOM)
IT SEEMS THE DEATH KNIGHT'S DOING HIS JOB...
I GUESS WE SHOULD GO CHECK ON THE SURVIVING VILLAGERS.
BUT BEFORE THAT...
BAN (POW)
..."THE JEALOUSY MASK."
A TYPE OF CURSED ITEM ONLY POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN BY HAVING BEEN IN-GAME FOR TWO HOURS OR MORE FROM THE PERIOD BETWEEN SEVEN AND TEN P.M. ON CHRISTMAS EVE (— OR RATHER, IT WAS FORCED ON YOU...

HEY...
IF YOU WERE GONNA PRAY TO YOUR GOD TO SAVE YOU...
...MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN MASSACRING PEOPLE...
IF I GO LOOKING LIKE A SKELETON, THEY'LL BE AFRAID OF ME.
IT DOESN'T REALLY HAVE ANY POWERS!..
..BUT IT'S BETTER THAN NOTHING.
YOU BASTARDS! GET THAT MONSTER UNDER CONTROL!
EEK!

I'M TOO IMPORTANT TO DIE HERE!
I—
!!
AAAAA
AAAUH
UGYAHHHH!!
YEEK!
...NO, NO, NO...
—DEATH KNIGHT!
THAT'S ENOUGH.

HOW DO YOU DO, GENTLEMEN?
MY NAME IS AINZ OOAL GOWN.
TELL YOUR OWNER...
...TO CEASE THIS.
IF YOU CAUSE ANY MORE TROUBLE HERE...
...I'LL BRING DEATH TO YOUR COUNTRY NEXT.
NOW SCRAM!
EEP...
.....

ACTING TAKES SO MUCH ENERGY...
...OKAY.
YOU'RE SAFE NOW.
ZORO (CROWD)
I HOPE YOU CAN RELAX.
YOU SAVED OUR VILLAGE...
THIS WASN'T WHAT'S MEANT TO HAPPEN...
WHOA!
THANK YOU!
PAKA (CLOP)

HIS FRIENDS' GEAR DOESN'T MATCH... DOES THAT MEAN THEY'RE NOT PART OF A REGULAR ARMY?
HE LOOKS STRONG...
CHIK (CLICK)
...YOU SAVED THIS VILLAGE?
ZA (GRIP)
I AM CAPTAIN OF THE ROYAL SELECT OF THE KINGDOM OF RE-ESTIZE ...
...GAZEF STRONOFF.
WE'VE COME ON THE KING'S ORDERS TO SUBDUE THE IMPERIAL KNIGHTS TERRORIZING THIS REGION.
CAPTAIN OF THE ROYAL SELECT...
NICE TO MEET YOU, CAPTAIN.
I AM AINZ OOAL GOWN...
...A CASTER WHO SAW THIS VILLAGE BEING ATTACKED AND CAME TO SAVE IT.

THERE ARE NO WORDS TO EXPRESS MY THANKS THAT YOU HAVE SAVED THIS VILLAGE.
SU (PANT)
NO, I WAS ACTUALLY...
...DOING IT FOR THE REWARDS ANYWAY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
WE DIDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME...
...BUT... THIS MASKED MAN...
...YOU DID IT ALL YOURSELF, GOWN-DONO?
...
...YOU COULD SAY THAT...
...OR MAYBE NOT...
TAH (THUD)
CAPTAIN!

...!
THEY'RE SURROUNDING THE VILLAGE AND APPROACHING!
SEVERAL FIGURES SPOTTED IN THE AREA... SEEMS LIKE AN ATTACK!

YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE... OUR PREY HAS ENTERED THE CAGE.
LET US PUT OUR FAITH IN THE GODS.

...BEGIN.
CAPTAIN OF THE SUNLIT SCRIPTURE
NIGUN GRID LEWIN

WHO THE HECK ARE THESE GUYS?
THIS VILLAGE DOESN'T REALLY SEEM THAT VALUABLE...
...I SEE... YES, INDEED.

THEY MUST BE ONE OF THE RUMORED SIX SCRIPTURES, THEIR SPECIAL OPS UNITS.
...THEY MUST BE FROM THE SLANE THEOCRACY...
IF THEY HAVE THIS MANY CASTERS SUMMONING ANGELS...

I SUPPOSE THERE'S NO HELPING IT BECAUSE OF MY POSITION...
YOU'VE GOT SOME ENEMIES, CAPTAIN.

I NEVER THOUGHT THE SLANE THEOCRACY WOULD BE AFTER ME...
SIGH...
WE HAVE NO CHANCE AT WINNING IN A HEAD-ON BATTLE.
NUMBERS, STRENGTH— THEY HAVE THE ADVANTAGE...

GOWN-DONO, IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU, WE'D LIKE TO HIRE YOU.
...IS IT A YGGDRASIL MONSTER?
THAT LOOKS JUST LIKE A FLAME ARCHANGEL...
...?

...IF I INVOKED ROYAL LAW AND FORCEFULLY DRAFTED YOU?
I WOULD...
...PUT UP A LITTLE BIT OF RESISTANCE.

I THINK I'LL REFUSE.
AND...

.....
...OH WELL.
TAKE CARE, GOWN-DONO...
I APPRECIATE YOU SAVING THE VILLAGE.
AND I HAVE TO SAY...
...I WANT YOU TO PROTECT EVERYONE AGAIN.

I SWEAR TO PROTECT THIS VILLAGE ...
...ON MY HONOR AS AINZ OOAL GOWN.
...I UNDER-STAND.
WE'RE GOING TO ACT AS A DECOY AND GET THEM TO BREAK THEIR LINE HOWEVER WE CAN.
I HOPE YOU'LL CONSIDER MY REQUEST.
BEFORE YOU GO...
MOZO (PSH)
...PLEASE TAKE THIS.
A ME-MENTO ...
I GRATE-FULLY ACCEPT IT.
A CARVING ...?
GU (PSH)

I FEEL NOTHING MORE...
...TOWARD A HUMAN I'M MEETING FOR THE FIRST TIME THAN I WOULD FOR A BUG...
...BUT ONCE I TRY TALKING TO THEM, I START TO GET ATTACHED AS IF THEY WERE CUTE LITTLE ANIMALS.
IS THAT WHY YOU SWORE ON YOUR HONOR ALONG WITH YOUR SACRED NAME?
MAYBE...
NO.
PERHAPS IT WAS BECAUSE...
...I ADMIRE HIM...
HE HAS A STRONG WILL.
PAKA (CLOP)
UNLIKE ME.

OOOO (ROAR)
YAAAAAA!
...YOU CAN DO ANYTHING WITH MAGIC, HUH!?
...
DAMMIT!
PA (FLAP)
PA
PA

!
...THEN THE VILLAGE IS NO LONGER SURROUNDED...
...BUT IF THERE ARE THIS MANY HERE...
KHUH!
YOU GUYS...!
I THOUGHT I TOLD THEM THAT ONCE THE CIRCLE STARTED CONTRACTING, WE WERE GOING TO RETREAT.
GEEZ...
...THESE IDIOTS...

...PROUD OF THEM!
I'M SO DAMN...
FLOW ACCELERATION!
!
INSTANT REFLEX!
SIXFOLD SLASH OF LIGHT!

HEH!
BUT...
...THAT'S ALL.
SUPERB...
KA GRUUMM
DO OHHMM
GYAGHH!
GORO GUUMMM

GAKU (SLUMP)
UGH...
FUTO (STAGGER)

...SO THE JOB GETS DONE BEYOND DOUBT.
ATTACK AS A GROUP...
FINISH HIM.

I'VE TAKEN MANY LIVES ALONG THE WAY...
I'M NOT SCARED TO DIE!
GIGI (CLENCH)
HAAH! HAAH!
BUTO (DROP)

I CAN'T LOSE...
I'M CAPTAIN OF THE ROYAL SELECT!
I LOVE AND PROTECT THIS COUNTRY!
...TO BASTARDS LIKE YOU WHO WOULD DEFILE IT!

HOW FOOLISH...
IF YOU HAD JUST FORSAKEN THE PEOPLE IN THIS BORDERLAND, THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED.
AFTER WE KILL YOU, WE'RE GOING TO KILL THE SURVIVING VILLAGERS.
ALL YOU'VE DONE IS BOUGHT THEM MORE TIME TO BE TORMENTED BY FEAR.
QUIT YOUR FUTILE FLAILING AND DIE QUIETLY.
I'LL TAKE PITY ON YOU AND KILL YOU PAINLESSLY.
HEH...
...THERE'S SOMEONE IN THAT VILLAGE...
...WHO IS STRONGER THAN ME!

...YOU THINK A BLUFF LIKE THAT WILL WORK ON ME?
ANGELS!
KILL HIM!
...SEEMS ABOUT TIME I SWAP IN.

I TELE-PORTED...?
WHERE AM I...?
ZORO, CLUSTERED
CAPTAIN!
PA GBLINK
...OH.
SO THAT'S VOICE WAS—
HEH.

HOW DO YOU DO...
...PEOPLE OF THE SLANE THEOCRACY?

MY NAME IS AINZ OOAL GOWN.
THERE IS ONE THING...
...I MUST SAY UP FRONT, AND THAT IS—
YOU CANNOT ...
...WIN AGAINST ME.

Martial Arts

Techniques that did not exist in *Yggdrasil*. Similar powers in *Yggdrasil* were called *skills*. They are acquired mainly by warriors. Effects are various and include boosting physical abilities or sharpening the mind—martial arts are considered the magic of the warrior classes.

Martial arts consume a user's focus depending on how strong they are. For this reason, there is a limit to how many can be used at once. A warrior of Gazef Stronoff's caliber can normally use six at a time and, under extreme circumstances, up to seven.

Flow Acceleration
An art that temporarily accelerates the workings of the user's nerves, increasing their attack speed, among other things. The downside of it is the extreme exhaustion that builds up in the user's brain.

Fortress
A defensive art that absorbs attacks.

Heavy Blow
An art that inflicts battering damage on enemies with hard armor.

Fatal Edge
An art that, by pouring energy into their blade, allows the user to unleash an intense slashing attack.

Sixfold Slash of Light
A spectacular art that allows the user to slash nearby enemies six times with one swing of their sword. It is a favorite killing move of the tremendously powerful Gazef Stronoff, but its burden is great—each use takes as much focus as three regular arts, and the user's body is markedly exhausted.

Instant Reflex
An art that forcibly returns the user to attack stance after they are thrown off-balance by a previous attack. It's effective for dodging enemy attacks, but puts a large burden on the user's body.

Focus Battle Aura
By pouring the user's fighting spirit into their weapon, this art endows normal weapons with effects equivalent to those of magical weapons. With these weapons, it is possible to break through the special defenses of races such as angels.

IGNORANCE IS A PITIFUL THING.
OOO (WHOOSH)
YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY FOR YOURS.
...HM.
I WONDER ABOUT THAT...
Episode 04
OVERLORD
I ONLY CAME HERE BECAUSE I WAS ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN I WOULD WIN.
IF I THOUGHT I COULDN'T BEAT YOU...
NOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THIS, I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS.
...DON'T YOU THINK I WOULD HAVE FORSAKEN THAT MAN?

...WHY ARE YOU ASKING IF YOU ALREADY KNOW? WHAT'S "YGGDRASIL"?
ARE THOSE FLAME ARCHANGELS? SUMMONED WITH SOMEWHERE AROUND THIRD-TIER MAGIC, I THINK?
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE SUMMONING THE SAME MONSTER AS FROM YGGDRASIL ...
JUST AS I THOUGHT... THERE MUST BE OTHERS LIKE ME IN THIS WORLD.
IT WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE...
IT FEELS VERY UNNATURAL FOR THERE TO BE ARCHANGELS HERE...
...WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE CHRISTIANITY.
IT MOST DEFINITELY IS NOT A LIE!
...AND THERE'S A REASON I TOLD THE TRUTH.
YOU FOOL... IF YOU LIE, ALL WE NEED TO DO IS SEARCH THE VILLAGE, AN—
I TELEPORTED HIM INTO THE VILLAGE.
THAT'S ENOUGH TALKING TO YOURSELF...
WHAT DID YOU DO WITH STRONOFF?

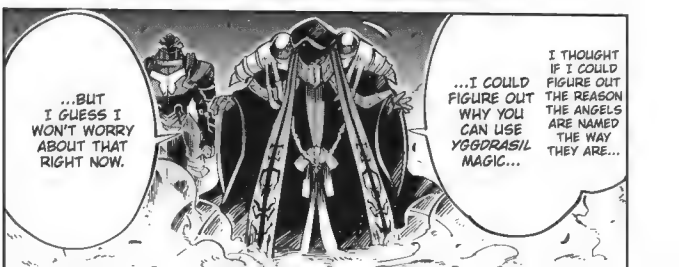
ACTUALLY...
I WAS LISTENING TO YOUR CONVERSATION WITH CAPTAIN GAZEF...
(WHOOSH)
YOU...
(CRUMBLE)
...DECLARED THAT YOU WOULD KILL THE VILLAGERS...
...THAT I TOOK THE TIME TO SAVE!
DOES THAT STRIKE YOU AS A VERY NICE THING TO DO?
SURRENDER YOUR LIVES WITHOUT A FUSS...
...AND THIS WON'T HURT A BIT.
IF YOU REFUSE...
...THE PENALTY FOR YOUR FOOLISHNESS IS...

ZOKU (SHUDDER)
A SKELE-TON...!?
...YOU WILL DIE IN!
...THE PAIN AND DESPAIR ...
A—
ANGELS, CHARGE!
BA (SWOOP)
ZUN (STAB)

YOU WRETCHES!
TRYING TO FOOL ME WITH THOSE RIDICULOUS BLUFFS...
I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I?
MEK (CRACK)
MEK
MEK
YOU CAN'T WIN AGAINST ME.
...!?
ZAWA (MURMURS)
NO WAY...
GREATER PHYSICAL DAMAGE IMMUNITY ...
IT'S A PASSIVE SKILL THAT MAKES ME IMMUNE TO DAMAGE...
...FROM LOW-LEVEL MONSTERS AND WEAPONS THAT DON'T HAVE A TON OF DATA.
IT CAN ONLY NULLIFY ATTACKS FROM UP TO LEVEL 60, BUT...IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S BEEN PRETTY USEFUL, HUH?
NOW, THEN...

PARA
COLUMN
GO
YMUMU
PARA

EEP!
!?


I THOUGHT IF I COULD FIGURE OUT THE REASON THE ANGELS ARE NAMED THE WAY THEY ARE...
...I COULD FIGURE OUT WHY YOU CAN USE YGGDRASIL MAGIC...
...BUT I GUESS I WON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW.

...IT'S MY TURN NEXT!
...HERE I GO!
THIS IS A MAS-SACRE!
ALL ANGELS, ATTACK!
NOW!
ZUN (VOOM)
SU (PHIP)
YOU GUYS REALLY LIKE TO PLAY, HUH...?
ALBEDO, FALL BACK.

ZAO (FREEZING)
NEGATIVE BURST!
THIS CAN'T BE...
あんぐり
ANGURI (GAPE)
THIS ... !
THERE'S SOMEONE IN THAT VILLAGE WHO IS STRONGER THAN ME!
GASP!
...!
(WHOOSH)

HOLD!
FON
FON CHOONG
CHARM PERSON!
FIRE RAIN!
FON
IRON HAMMER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS!
AS I THOUGHT, THESE ARE ALL SPELLS I KNOW.
WHO TAUGHT THEM TO YOU? SOMEONE FROM THE SLANE THEOCRACY?
THERE ARE JUST MORE AND MORE THINGS I WANT TO ASK.
GO (THWACK)
PRINCIPALITY OBSERVATION... ENGAGE!
P—
BA CHOOM
...THIS CAN'T BE POSSIBLE!

SHEESH...
TH... THIS CAN'T BEEEEEE!
PO (PWUP)
BOWAA (KERFHOOM)
HELL FLAME!

C-CAPTAIN, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
DEFENSE! ANYONE WHO WANTS TO LIVE, BUY ME TIME!
WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY? "AINZ OOAL GOWN"?
HOW COULD I NOT HAVE HEARD OF YOU BEFORE?
THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN DESTROY AN ELITE ANGEL WITH JUST ONE SPELL!!
I'M GOING TO SUMMON THE HIGHEST-LEVEL ANGEL...!
SU (PWIP)
I DOUBT ANYTHING HIGHER THAN A SERAPH A SPHERE WILL SHOW UP...
...BUT IF THEY GET A SERAPH THE EMPYREON, WE'RE GONNA HAVE A REAL FIGHT ON OUR HANDS.
WHICH MEANS THE HIGHEST-LEVEL ANGEL THEY CAN SUMMON WOULD BE SERAPH-CLASS...?
SO THERE ARE YGGDRASIL ITEMS HERE TOO...?
COULD THAT BE A... CRYSTAL WITH MAGIC SEALED INSIDE...?

KA (SHINE)
BEHOLD!
THE NOBLE...
BASA (FLAP)

...DOMINION AUTHORITY!
GWOOOSH
TH...
THIS IS YOU GETTING SERIOUS ...?
THIS ANGEL...
...IS THE ACE... UP YOUR SLEEVE ...!?

YES, THAT'S RIGHT!
THIS IS THE HIGHEST-LEVEL ANGEL!
I KNOW YOU CAN'T HELP BUT BE FRIGHTENED.
NORMALLY IT'D BE A WASTE TO USE SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
...BUT I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF DECIDING YOU WERE A WORTHY ADVERSARY.
WHAT THE HECK...?
AINZ OOAL GOWN.
I SUMMONED THE HIGHEST-LEVEL ANGEL AGAINST YOU— I RESPECT YOU AS AN OPPONENT.
TAKE PRIDE IN THAT! YOU ARE A TREMENDOUSLY POWERFUL CASTER—
...THIS IS TRULY...
... RIDICULOUS!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I ACTUALLY TOOK PRE-CAUTIONS AGAINST THIS KIDS' STUFF...
UGH.
GRRU (TWITCH)
.....
NGH.
IT CAN'T BE!..
IT CAN'T BE!
IT CANNOT BE!
HOW CAN HE ACT THIS WAY BEFORE THE HIGHEST-LEVEL ANGEL?
A BEING THAT DEFEATED EVEN A GREAT DEMON!
USE HOLY SMITE!
KA (SMASH)

THIS A SEVENTH-TIER SPELL, BEYOND THE POWER OF HUMAN BEINGS!
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HE IS, IF THIS SPELL IS CAST...
HA!
GOSHUUU GOUHPWSHO
ゴシュウウウ

ZAN
GUND
JUST WHAT I'D EXPECT FROM A SPELL CAST BY A BEING STRONG AGAINST EVIL...
SO THIS IS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO TAKE DAMAGE? THIS IS PAIN...?
I SEE, I SEE.
MARVELOUS. YET ANOTHER EXPERIMENT COMPLETED.
.....
Y...

...LOWER LIFE-FORM SCUUUM!
Y-YOU...
AAAAAAH, I HATE YOU! I HATE YOU, I HATE YOU, I HATE YOU SO MUCH MY HEART FEELS LIKE IT'S GOING TO EXPLOOODE!
I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU THE MAXIMUM PAIN THAT EXISTS IN THIS WORRELD!
KNOW YOUR PLACE AS GARBAAAGE! DEATH IS A FATE TOO MERCIFUL FOR YOUUU!
EEK!
....THE MAN I SUUUUPER LOVE— TO BE IN PAAAIN!?
HOW DARE YOU CAUSE OUR LOVED AND RESPECTED MASTER, AINZ-SAMA— THE MAN I LOVE...

A-AGAIN!
BEAT HIM DOWN WITH HOLY SMITE!
ASIDE FROM THE UNEXPECTED FRAGILITY OF THEIR ANGELS, EVERYTHING IS GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN.
YOU'RE MORE CHARMING WHEN YOU SMILE.
TEE HEE! CHAR—
THANK YOU.
IT'S FINE, ALBEDO.
BUT...
KNOW DESPAIR...
BLACK HOLE!

DON (HMM)
オ
オ
ニ
ゴゴゴゴ (ROAR)
オオオ
ヘたッ
METAL (BLUNT)
TH...

TH... THIS GUY IS STRONGER!..
...THAN A DEMON...
!
W-WAIT!
...I'M GOING TO LET YOU KNOW AHEAD OF TIME...
...THAT I'VE CAST ANTI-TELEPORTATION MAGIC AROUND HERE...
...AND I HAVE MEN WAITING TO AMBUSH YOU THROUGHOUT THE AREA, SO ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE.
I'D LIKE YOU TO WAIT A MOMENT, AINZ OOAL GOWN-DONO—SAMA!

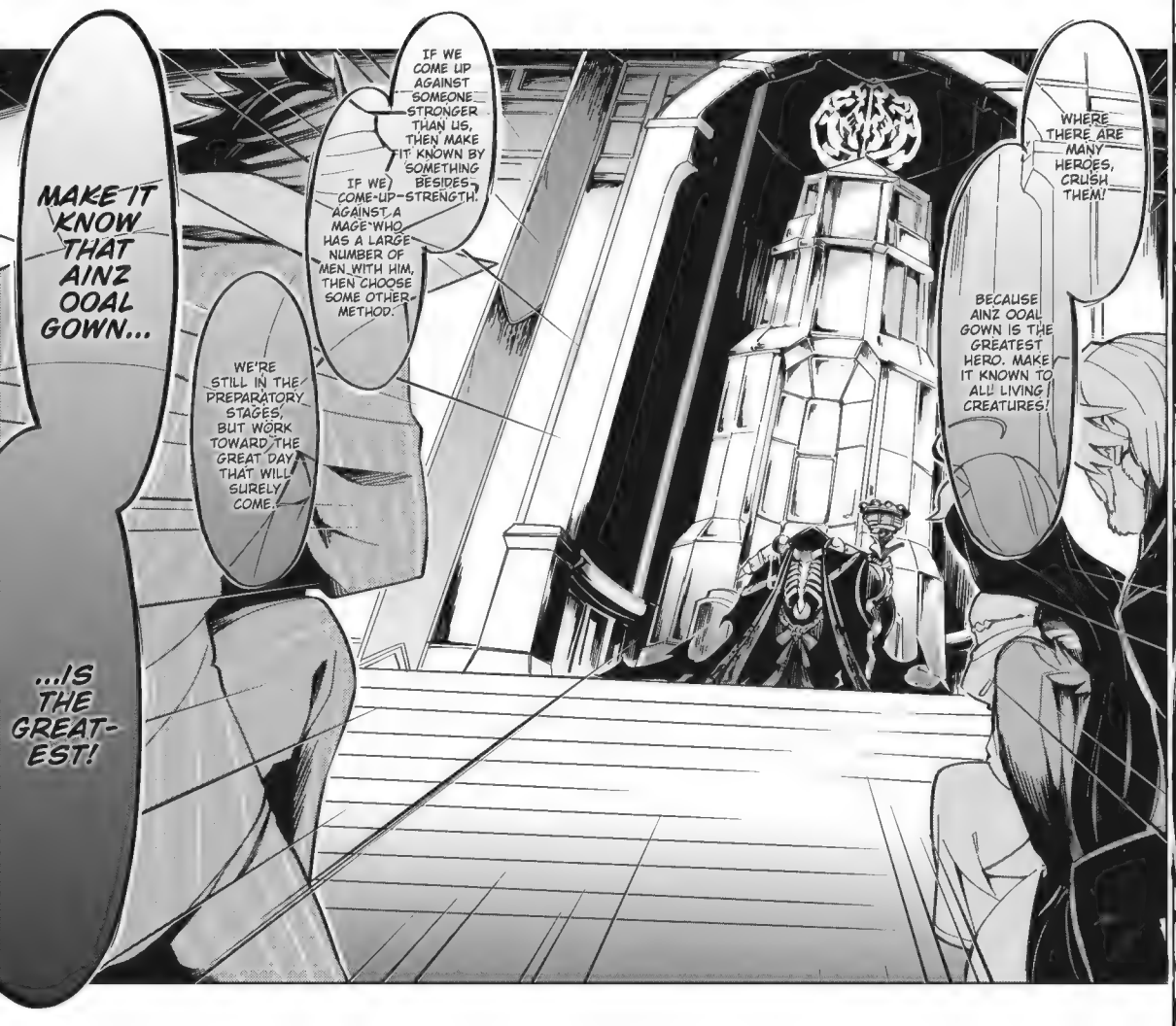
AINZ-SAMA SAYS...
...YOU WILL DIE, SO...
...I'LL GIVE YOU...
...WHATEVER YOU WANT!
IF YOU'LL SPARE OUR LIVES—NO, EVEN JUST MY LIFE...
WHAT ABOUT US?!
...YOU LOWER LIFE-FORMS—YOU HUMANS—BOW YOUR HEADS...
...AND WAIT FOR THE END, FULL OF GRATITUDE.
LET'S SEE... WHAT WAS IT, AGAIN?
"QUIT YOUR FUTILE FLAILING AND DIE QUIETLY.
"I'LL TAKE PITY ON YOU AND KILL YOU PAINLESSLY."

AND HOW ARE WE FEELING?
...!
I'M ALIVE...?
はっ
GASP!
PRETTY SOON...
...I'LL BE SLURPING YOU UP— SMOOCH! ♡
GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK
OFFICER OF INTELLIGENCE GATHERING (OFFICER OF TORTURE)
NEURONIST PAINKILL
CHURUN (SMOOCH)

ALLOW ME TO REPORT.
THE SLANE THEOCRACY COMMANDER THAT WE CAPTURED HAS BEEN SENT TO THE ICE PRISON.
THE PLAN IS TO HAVE AN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER GET INFORMATION OUT OF HIM.
IF YOU'RE GETTING NEURONIST TO DO IT, THAT'S NO PROBLEM.
BUT YOU TOLD HER I WANT TO EXPERIMENT ON THE CORPSE, RIGHT?
YES, MY LORD.

NOW, THEN—
GUBA (SWAY)
THE "MOMONGA" FLAG...
I CHANGED MY NAME.
FROM NOW ON, CALL ME...

...AINZ OOAL GOWN—
—"AINZ" FOR SHORT.
WE HAVE HEARD YOUR HONORABLE NAME. HAIL...
...AINZ OOAL GOWN-SAMA!
TO YOU, MOST NOBLE ONE, WE OF THE GREAT TOMB OF NAZARICK PLEDGE OUR ABSOLUTE LOYALTY!
HAIL!


MAKE IT KNOW THAT AINZ OOAL GOWN...
...IS THE GREAT-EST!
WE'RE STILL IN THE PREPARATORY STAGES, BUT WORK TOWARD THE GREAT DAY THAT WILL SURELY COME.
IF WE COME UP AGAINST SOMEONE STRONGER THAN US, THEN MAKE IT KNOWN BY SOMETHING BESIDES STRENGTH.
IF WE COME UP AGAINST A MAGE WHO HAS A LARGE NUMBER OF MEN WITH HIM, THEN CHOOSE SOME OTHER METHOD.
BECAUSE AINZ OOAL GOWN IS THE GREATEST HERO. MAKE IT KNOWN TO ALL LIVING CREATURES!
WHERE THERE ARE MANY HEROES, CRUSH THEM!
I'M GOING TO GIVE A STRICT ORDER NOW, A GUIDELINE FOR OUR POLICY GOING FORWARD.
MAKE AINZ OOAL GOWN AN ENDURING LEGEND!

...SO THAT IT CAN REACH ANY FORMER GUILD MEMBERS ...
...WHO MAY YET BE IN THIS WORLD ...

KATSUN (CLICK)
カシャン
...DEMI-URGE.
PLEASE TELL EVERY-ONE WHAT AINZ-SAMA TOLD YOU.
UNDER-STOOD.
...THIS IS WHAT AINZ-SAMA SAID TO ME...
...WHILE GAZING AT THE NIGHT SKY—
"WORLD CONQUEST? ...THAT MIGHT BE FUN."

EVERYONE.
KNOW THAT OUR ULTIMATE GOAL...
...IS TO GIVE THIS WORLD...
...THIS BOX OF JEWELS, TO AINZ-SAMA.
WE WILL GIVE ALL THIS WORLD HAS TO OFFER TO ITS TRUE RULER, AINZ-SAMA!

TO BE CONTINUED IN OVERLORD 2

Types of Magic

In *Yggdrasil*, there were roughly four types of magic depending on what kind of ability points got used. The types were: magical, faith, psychic, and other. What pops into people's heads when they think of Western-style mages was "magical," healing spells cast by priests were "faith," more Eastern-style with talismans and the like was "psychic," and everything else was "other." Those were broken down further into branches: defense, ghost, elemental, travel, and so on. Then there were tiers that went from one to ten, plus the super-tier, which surpassed all the others; the total number of spells was well over six thousand.

Ainz could use 718 spells. Normally a level-100 player could use about three hundred, so that is an insane amount. When level-100 players went out grinding, they mainly used spells that were eighth-tier and up.

However, in the world to which Ainz has been transported, the highest tier the most skilled casters can use is third. The ones who can use fifth-tier spells are considered heroic. It's said that humans are unable to cast seventh-tier spells and above. Slane Theocracy casters can, but only by performing large-scale ceremonies.

Lightning
A third-tier spell that shoots a bolt of lightning from the tip of the caster's finger. Effective against opponents wearing metal armor.

Create Undead
A third-tier spell that creates a zombie-like "undead."

Summon Angel: Third
A third-tier spell that summons an angel. This is what summoned the flame archangels, but there are a number of types of angels that can be called forth using this spell. The highest-level angel, a dominion authority, is believed to be summoned using Summon Angel: Seventh.

Dragon Lightning
A fifth-tier spell that shoots white lightening in the shape of a writhing dragon from the tip of the caster's finger. As with Lightning, it's effective against opponents wearing metal armor.

Holy Smite
A seventh-tier spell cast by a dominion authority. Envelops the target in a column of pure light and inflicts massive damage to evil-aligned opponents.

Grasp Heart
A ninth-tier spell in which the caster grabs and crushes their opponent's heart, causing instant death. One of Ainz's specialties, as he is strong in ghost magic. Even if the opponent resists, there is stun as a secondary effect.

OVERLORD 1

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Turn to the back
of the book for an
original short story
by series creator
Kugane Maruyama!

The stupid is multiplying. Aura began to feel sad. *Why did I bother taking her so seriously?* Thinking how ridiculous everything was, she watched as if from a great distance while the other two got all worked up.

"This is the only armor I have! I don't have a metal bikini, or thigh-high boots, or anything!"

"I do believe I received something like that in the clothing Lord Peroroncino gave me, but as armor, it wasn't very effective."

That took the wind out of Albedo's sails. "Well, that won't work, then. I need to be eye candy for Lord Ainz, but I also have to be his shield. My armor has to fulfill both those roles, or it's no good." The stupidity bounced right back. "You get it, right, Shalltear? I mean, your armor doesn't show any skin, either. What I'm after is sexiness plus performance—a suit of armor combining both!"

Aura didn't really want to get involved, but she was certain that letting them go on like this would cause trouble for her in the future. Unpleasantness was best dealt with right away. "What's the point of wearing armor like that...? No matter what kind of magical armor you wear, if you get hit in an exposed area, the damage is huge!"

"But! But! If I wear this string-bikini armor, maybe I have a shot at getting pregnant with Lord Ainz's babies!" Albedo's fingers made victory signs.

"That's not armor... It just isn't."

"Then I have another idea. How about see-through armor? With just the critical spots covered?"

"That could work!"

How far are they going to go with this? Ahh, whatever. Aura sighed and stretched her neck. She didn't want to participate in this conversation any longer.

"If there are any problems, I'll let Demiurge deal with them." Foisting her hopes upon their absent colleague, she stuck a fork into the cake on her plate.

She put a bite in her mouth, and the subtle sweetness filled her exhausted brain in an agreeable way. "Oh, it's so good."

Her fellow guardians—exchanging impassioned theories on armor that was not even armor anymore—were no longer in her field of vision, though she did feel bad for whatever blacksmith was going to have to make that gear.

"...Would somebody put some sense into these two ladies' brains? I guess it's impossible... and it'd be rude to ask Lord Ainz..." Aura finished in three bites and reached out to take her next piece of cake.

"Hmm? Seems a pretty powerful special, but maybe a little iffy."

Normally, armor and other magical gear would not break unless a specific destruction skill was used. Since metal was quite durable and especially resistant to pure energy such as lightning, fire, and chill, armor that was a hunk of metal was generally difficult to break. In other words, metal armor had very high defense but low HP.

If Albedo used metal armor to absorb damage, then, without considering its particular defensive strength, there was a chance it would break more easily than she had guessed. Once armor was damaged, the defense it granted decreased dramatically, so she'd find herself on a slippery slope. Aura could see that whatever Albedo was calling it, her ace move was really more like a stopgap.

"Yeah. Normal armor would break and weaken right away. But since you investigated my armor, you understand the idea behind it, right, Shalltear? Normal ace moves can only be used once a day, but I can use mine three times."

"Huh? You mean you didn't just get the HP high enough so it can withstand three strikes?"

Before Albedo could answer Aura's question, Shalltear jumped in. "I see... So that's how it works."

Albedo smiled, and Aura, who felt left out, gave Shalltear a jab. Shalltear knew what Albedo had meant, so she began to explain. "At a glance, this armor looks like one piece, but it's actually three layers."

"Ahh!" exclaimed Aura. Essentially, it was a barrier that took three hits to destroy.

"Yes, Aura. I'm glad you see now."

"I get it. In other words, it really is the optimal armor for you, considering your ace move. That's definitely the attention to detail I'd expect from a Supreme One." But then Aura thought of something. "So what's the problem, then?"

"Hold your horses. We're about to get to that, but first let me explain a little more about my armor. The innermost layer is assimilation armor, almost like a liquid. When I show my true form, I fuse with it to harden my flesh. The next layer is a suit of armor that covers my whole body. And the outermost layer is additional armor that encloses the suit to increase my defense even more."

"Mm-hm."

"So the layers break in this order: additional armor, full-body armor, assimilation armor"—Albedo took a breath and Aura swallowed. *What kind of problem could there possibly be?*—"which means that even though things are breaking, the amount of exposed skin doesn't increase!"

"...Huh?" Aura wondered if she had heard right. She ignored Shalltear's "I see" from beside her and made a *Come again?* gesture.

"Get it? If your armor's cracked, more skin should show, right? Not that I have any intention of revealing myself to random worms, but I'm by Lord Ainz's side pretty often to protect him. In order to catch his eye, I really need armor that shows skin!" Her expression seemed to say, *That's just plain common sense!*

"Wonderful, Albedo. What you're saying is exactly right."

she was doing—but not before she was done putting the cake on her plate. "If you need someone to talk to, you have Shalltear... Geez, what a pain. Well, what is it?"

"It's about my armor."

"Your armor? What about it?"

"Before I tell you guys, I want to find out how much you know about my armor."

Aura and Shalltear looked at each other and spoke in turn:

"It was made by a Supreme One, right?"

"I heard it's the only god-tier item you have."

Magic items are categorized by the amount of data—in this world, magic—that they contain. Such items start at low-tier and go on to medium-tier, upper-tier, and eventually, way at the top, god-tier.

"Yes, you're both right. My armor, Hermes Trismegistus, is a god item. But—" Albedo plucked her sturdy, thick, seemingly strong black armor out of the air. It made a racket. "Shalltear, you can use the spell that analyzes a magic item's powers, right? Would you cast it on my armor?"

"Sure." Shalltear got up and went over to the armor, cast the spell, and furrowed her brow. "...Huh? For a god item, this is pretty... Was obfuscation magic cast on it to prevent others from seeing the powers?"

"No. Your reading is accurate. My armor is physically quite strong, but has no other powers."

That certainly is worthy of brow furrowing, thought Aura.

It made sense that as a tank—the role of drawing enemy fire—Albedo would have armor that prioritized strength. The problem was that it didn't have any other powers. For example, it didn't have resistance to elemental attacks such as fire or chill—or any other magic resistance, either. Nor did it boost any of her skills. There were many different ways its potential could have been used, some of which would have probably made for a stronger item. Still...

"So? If you're saying you have issues with the armor bestowed upon you by a Supreme One...that's kinda no joke."

Any disrespect toward a Supreme Being was unforgivable. It wasn't just Aura—Shalltear's look was also penetratingly severe.

"No, don't misunderstand me. That's not what I'm trying to say. First of all, I do think this armor is optimal for me because I have an ace mo—well, a special ability that is like an ace move."

Some of the classes whose prerequisites were stricter came with a special skill. These were sometimes called *ace moves*. For example, Shalltear had the power to create her own clone, replete with the same attack and defensive abilities. Incidentally, Aura's class didn't come with an ace move, so she didn't have one.

"My 'ace move' is to have my armor absorb damage. I can withstand any hit—yes, even the super-tier magic that transcends the tenth tier Lord Ainz is so proud of—without getting so much as a scratch. The only problem is that if the armor isn't strong enough, it will break in one hit."

"Hmmm." Aura sighed loudly so the other two could hear. Albedo and Shalltear returned from their conversational tangent to look at her. Aura shot them an annoyed expression with her half-closed eyes. "Sure, it's nighttime, but that doesn't mean I'm tired. It's something else. I saw Demiurge, and he told me, 'Aura. Make sure those two don't get out of control.' Isn't that kinda weird?" Aura did a good impression of the way Demiurge spoke, so much so that the face of the guardian of the seventh level, a demon who was often out on his master's orders, came to the minds of all three.

"Yes, that is weird."

"Right?" Aura nodded, feeling validated by Albedo's reply.

"The one who should take control is Lord Ainz."

"Hm?" Aura touched her long elf ears, thinking she hadn't heard correctly.

"Yeah, you're right." Shalltear ignored Aura's confusion and continued her agreement. "The best would be if he got on top with a whip in one hand. Yeah, he would be lashing us, and—oh, we'd need to have ring gags in our mouths."

From there on, their conversation would only get worse. When two freaks get together, there's nothing stopping them. And if they crossed the line, who would have to fix things?

Probably me, Aura realized wisely, and opened her mouth before Albedo, blushing, with glazed eyes, could get a word in. "...That's not what I meant! He thinks it's my job to look after you guys. Why?"

"Yeah, you're the smallest one here, so it's weird that he'd think you could handle that. Okay, I get it. I'll take on the job." Albedo puffed out her chest, thrusting her ample twin swells forward. Shalltear puffed out her own chest in competition. She was busty for her age, but Aura knew the truth behind the girl's response; the only emotions that arose in her mind were sadness and pity.

"Uh, you're kind of missing the point."

"The point?"

Aura's shoulders slumped, and she sighed like a worn-out, middle-aged corporate drone. "...Just forget it. Why'd you call us here, anyway?"

"Yeah, I'm curious about that, too. Did something happen?"

"Well...I can't talk to just anybody about it, but I am a little worried about something."

One would probably think there would be some important reason for the captain of the floor guardians to summon individual floor guardians to her room. That, however, would be pure naïveté.

Aura knew Albedo well, so she looked away and reached toward the silver triple-decker cake stand in one corner of the table. If she stuffed her face with lots of the head chef's cakes, she could escape this painful reality, and coming here would not have been in vain.

"Hey, Aura, are you listening?"

"Yeah, of course I'm listening. Get on with it." But she didn't stop. She carefully served herself a cake, making sure it didn't tip. It would be such a waste if it fell over and some of the whipped cream got on the plate.

"You don't seem to be taking this very seriously..."

Sensing some gloominess in her tone, Aura, who valued her friends, stopped what

The guild members known as the Forty-One Supreme Beings, who built the Great Tomb of Nazarick, gave each level its own traits. For example, one is a jungle, and another is a glacier. It is, in a way, as if ten different worlds were shut up in one tomb.

And what is the ninth level like? One might describe it as a sublime palace. Since all forty-one private chambers are there (though only one Supreme Being remains)—as well as the residence of "the White Succubus" Albedo, who holds the highest position among the tomb's NPCs—the rooms are akin to penthouse suites in a luxury hotel. Actually, it might be more correct to say *houses* than *private chambers*. One of them has a grand piano and even a small bar. These are spacious-kitchen, multiple-bedroom, dual-bathroom affairs.

Additionally, everything from the furnishings to the wallpaper is gorgeous, and it's all calculated so as not to fatigue visitors' eyes; anyone would enjoy taking in the décor and feel so impressed, a sigh might even escape their lips.

However, it's difficult to be certain that a visitor would react this way every time. Especially at that moment in one particular room, where there happened to be a girl who didn't look very upbeat at all; her arms were folded and laid on a table covered by a white tablecloth, with her chin resting on top. There was an icy spark deep in her half-open eyes; along with the beauty contained, there seemed to dwell a keen cool-headedness.

Shalltear Bloodfallen, the vampire guardian of levels one through three, addressed her friend, who had been looking the same way ever since arriving in the room. "Wh-what's wrong, Aura? Your eyes remind me of that worthless lowlife who defied Lord Ainz that one time whose fingers I ripped off."

It wasn't the visiting dark-elf guardian of level six who replied, however, but the owner of the room, Albedo. Within her golden eyes was a gentle light, and she directed a tender gaze at Aura. It was the gaze of a goddess, but Aura knew the kindness was only surface-deep, so she didn't feel any happier. "She must be tired. Dark elves need sleep, unlike demons like me or undead like you, Shalltear."

"I see." Shalltear nodded, not understanding how Aura felt at all. "That makes sense. And Aura is still a kid. When children get sleepy, they make that kind of face... Oh, but Albedo, demons don't need sleep, food, or drink, but it's possible for them to partake of any of them. Why is that?"

"Gluttony and sloth are two of the time-honored seven deadly sins—i.e., imperative's for demons. Of course, there is no benefit to them, so when it comes to needs, no, we don't have any." Even eating a meal that gave a buff would have no effect on a demon. Feeding one was like throwing valuables into the trash.

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Blah, Blah, Blah...